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LORD PALMERSTON'S PARLIAMENT.

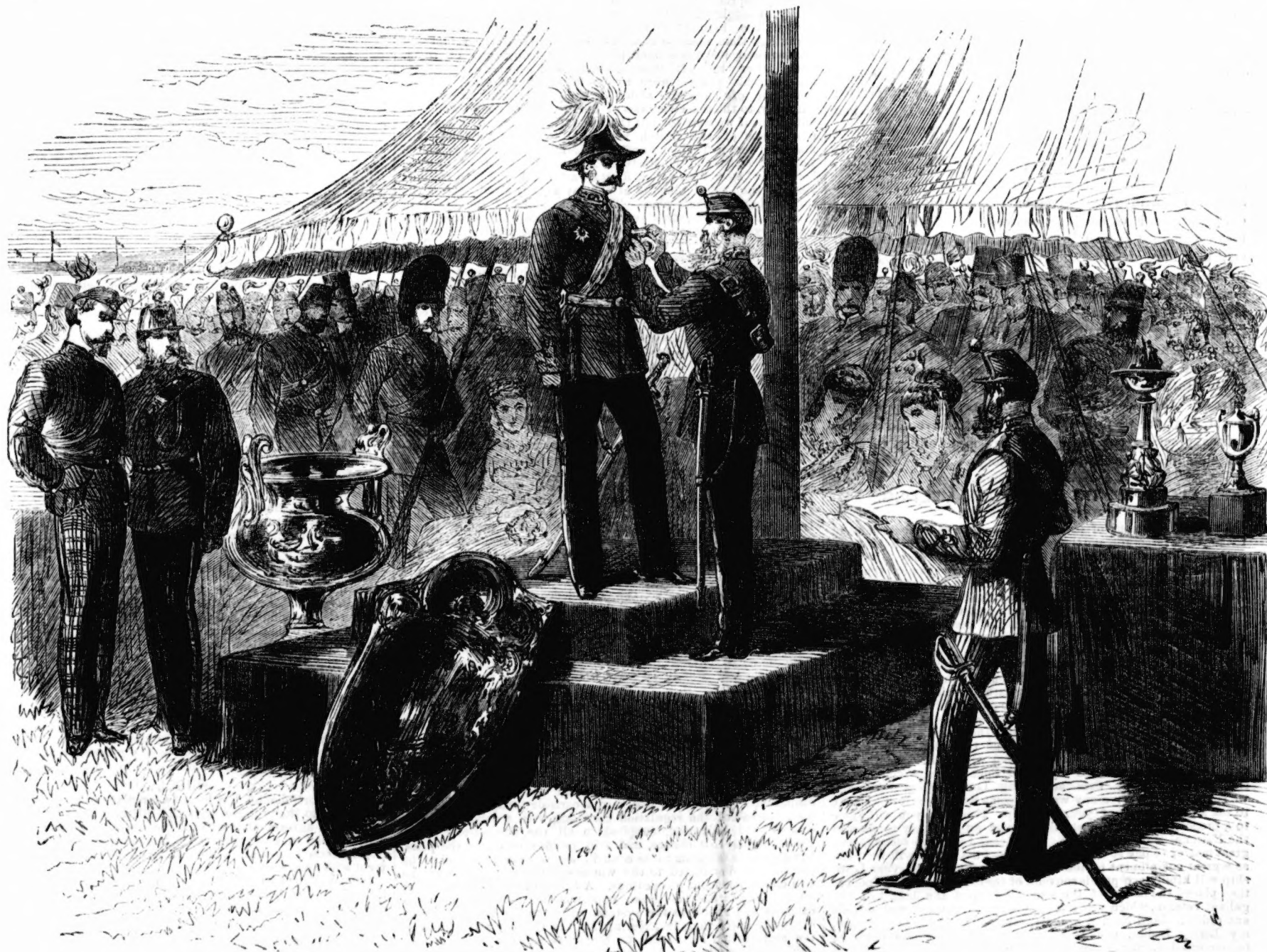
PARLIAMENT, ere this sheet shall have got into the hands of our readers, will have been prorogued, and practically ceased to be, although it will still nominally continue to exist for a few weeks longer, until its successor is on the eve of being elected. In these circumstances it will be interesting to recall a few features in its character and a few incidents of its career, as well as to note the singular phenomena that have marked its annals. Elected three years ago, under the auspices of Lord Palmerston, with, as was supposed, no special mission save to support that astute statesman and aid him in working out Viscount Melbourne's favourite rule of letting things alone, the history of the expiring Parliament illustrates in a remarkable manner how completely events may falsify anticipations, and how the best-laid schemes of would-be cunning men may be thwarted and set aside by overmastering and uncalculated-upon influences. Designed to impede, by passive resistance, all political change, Lord Palmerston's Parliament has been destined to effect some of the most momentous political changes that have characterised the history of this country in recent years. Expected, on the other hand, to be fruitful in social, legal, and administrative reforms, its history in these respects is comparatively a total blank; while, as regards finance, it has been a rather extravagant, or else a very unlucky, Parliament; for—even apart from the costs of the

Abyssinian war—it has greatly augmented the public expenditure, and that, too, in the face of a falling revenue. For the latter fact it may not be responsible; for the former, it certainly is.

And yet, utterly contradictory of anticipations as its acts have proved, this Parliament has been consistent throughout as regards the motives that prompted its action. Chosen by the country in a light if not a frivolous mood; entirely devoid of deep convictions or high aims; having no clearly-defined principles to guide it, the Parliament of 1865 has throughout been true to its original character. It has drifted into legislation; it has allowed itself to be "dragged, coerced, wheedled, forced" into acts it never contemplated, and has effected changes it never intended. It has been the creature of circumstances, the plaything of events, the facile slave of influences external to itself. In short, as we have said, it has had little mind of its own, and no guiding principle, no profound convictions; it has been a waiter upon Providence and an executor of other people's wills. Having its birth under the auspices of one statesman more eminent for tact than for earnestness, it dies under the leadership of another statesman more distinguished by fertility of resource than by serious convictions, breadth of view, or far-reaching prescience. To Lord Palmerston, under whom this Parliament came into existence, and to Mr. Disraeli, under whom it passes

away, may be conceded the merit of first-rate party leadership; but neither can lay claim to high initiative power or to the character of being legislators—lawgivers—in the higher and purer signification of the term. And the Parliament has been like unto them: it did not intend to do anything particular, and what it has done it did because it could not help it.

Deprived by death of its first chief ere it had assembled, the members of the House of Commons, when they came together in February, 1866, were like sheep without a shepherd. The voice the majority were prepared to have obeyed was hushed, and they were not ready to answer to the call of the more earnest-minded man who had succeeded to the position of their leader. They could not shake off the trammels of the frivolous spirit under which they had been elected, nor rise to the height of the great argument Mr. Gladstone laid before them. They could not understand him or appreciate his principles and policy. They had come to Westminster to do nothing, and they tried to carry out the programme. Mr. Gladstone called upon them to act—to reform their own constitution; and they, like unwilling horses, jibbed, shied, kicked over the traces; and, finally, refused to budge in the direction indicated. Some went over bodily to the Tory camp; some betook themselves to the Cave of Adullam, and, few in number, but strong in self-conceit, thought to form a third party in the



THE WIMBLEDON MEETING: EARL SPENCER ENROLLING LORD NAPIER A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION.

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CORN FLOUR,
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CORN FLOUR,
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CORN FLOUR,
to thicken
Sauces.
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CORN FLOUR,
to thicken
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LSON'S
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CORN FLOUR,
for Blancmange.
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CORN FLOUR,
for use with
Stewed Fruit.
LSON'S
CORN FLOUR,
for Puddings.
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CORN FLOUR,
Table-spoonful
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3d. per box; or
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safe antidote in
fevers, and Head-
ache, H. Lamplough,
— Then use
Bitter in the
3d., 4d., at 1s. per
Original Makers, 2,
DIGESTION
2, and 11s.
DESTROYING
Beetles.
DESTROYING
Insects,
3d. each; or 1s.
each, E.C.
ENT and
Unvarying
to the simple
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sometimes
Catherine street,
of Midland,
and, aforesaid.

State, a plant that does not seem congenial to the British political soil, for the project failed, its promoters being now scattered, no man exactly knows whither; all—or nearly all—were unwilling to follow their leader, who threw up the ungrateful position in disgust. The advent of a Conservative Ministry was the result; and so the scene closed over 1866.

In 1867 the country saw a singular sight. Public feeling had been aroused; Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli perceived that the sole condition on which they could hope to retain power was by proposing, and if possible passing, a Reform Bill; they felt constrained to do, in fact, the exact thing they had peremptorily refused to allow Mr. Gladstone to accomplish the year before. So they set about the double task of educating their own party in Radicalism and of "dishing the Whigs." We know the result. The famous "leap in the dark" was taken; and whereas Mr. Gladstone's £6 franchise had been denounced as too democratic, Mr. Disraeli, after exhibiting almost unheard-of vacillation and infirmity of purpose—after proposing resolutions, and abandoning them; after introducing the "Ten Minutes Bill," and almost as quickly withdrawing it—settled down upon household suffrage, tempered by certain checks, all of which he ultimately relinquished, save the ratepaying test. So the world witnessed the singular phenomena of a party pledged to oppose all reform proposing a measure more democratic than even the most sanguine Radical had dared to hope for, and a Parliament that had refused to accept Mr. Gladstone's moderate plan following Mr. Disraeli into strange and unfamiliar paths, which led them to whither. With the result Liberal politicians may well be contented, however little they may admire the men or approve the means whereby it was attained. Here we may close the political history of 1867, by repeating the remark we have already made: that up to this point Lord Palmerston's Parliament deserves little credit for its acts, however beneficial these may prove, because, devoid of high inspirations of its own, it took no initiative in its work, but let itself be made the facile tool of party leaders, who used it to accomplish their own personal ends.

It must be allowed, in justice to the expiring Parliament, that in 1868 the last year of its existence, it has indicated the revival of a better spirit. While completing the settlement in its main features of one great question, the House of Commons has mooted another of nearly equal importance; and, whether the Irish Church question besetled soon or late, the credit of initiating action upon it belongs entirely to the reunited Liberal party in the House. We may also give it credit for attempting at least to secure greater purity in the election of its successors—credit to a full share of which Mr. Disraeli is certainly entitled. We confess we have little faith in any attempt to make men virtuous by Act of Parliament, and are inclined to hope more from the enlarged constituencies than from the Corrupt Practices Act to secure purity of election. But the effort is deserving of praise; and on the whole it may be said that, unlike the wicked man in the parable, the end of this Parliament has been better than its beginning.

We speak here, of course, of the majority, the Liberal section of the House. As for the Tory minority, they have so utterly stultified themselves, have been so false to all their old principles, have so flatly contradicted at one time what they proclaimed at another, have let unscrupulous partisanship and love of place and power so override all other considerations, that it is neither pleasant nor profitable to discuss their conduct in the past, or to speculate as to what may be their policy in the future. They have been the "stupid party" hitherto, and they will form the stupid party still; they have always resisted progress and improvement till these have been forced upon them, and then they have not hesitated to appropriate other men's ideas, to robe themselves in other people's mental garments; and they will, no doubt, continue to follow the same obstructive and unscrupulous practices till the end. They are wedded to their senseless idols; we shall let them alone.

CLOSE OF THE WIMBLEDON MEETING.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

THE final ceremony of presenting the prizes to the best shots of the previous fortnight, and the volunteer review with which this great gathering annually terminates, took place last Saturday. Both in attendance and display the proceedings were tamer than on previous occasions; and the contrast between the crowds present last year and the comparatively sparse attendance of Saturday was very marked. The Belgian volunteers and the Sultan were the great attractions at the close of the last meeting; and even the popularity of Lord Napier of Magdala failed to secure such numbers as then.

The actual ceremony of prize-giving was worth seeing, because Lord Napier was the chief actor in it, and for the reason that the hero of Magdala is—apart from the natural curiosity and admiration his recent triumph inspires—particularly well qualified for the part he played last Saturday. In front of a series of grand stands, with inclosures before them, exactly like those seen on racecourses, was a small tent, and between this and the outer railing of the inclosures stood an elevated dais covered with crimson cloth. To this Lord Napier was led by Lord Spencer, who commenced the proceedings by thus addressing Lord Napier:—"Before we commence the ceremony we have come here to perform, I have to ask a great favour of your Lordship. It is that you will agree to a proposition that you should become an honorary member of the National Rifle Association. I feel that I am not offering any great matter to one so distinguished, but I am sure it will be taken as a great compliment by the volunteers of England if your Lordship will kindly accept this souvenir of the occasion." Earl Spencer then placed the badge of the association upon the breast of the gallant veteran, which was already pretty well covered with medals and orders. Lord Napier, in reply, said:—"I have great pleasure, my Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen, in accepting this mark of favour which Lord Spencer, as representing the volunteers of this country, has done me the honour to present me. I am very much pleased, indeed, in being enrolled among the volunteers of England. My experience in the mutiny of India has taught me that, however

perfect a small standing army may be, still, its numbers being few, it cannot take advantage of its successes; and it appears to me that the volunteers of England are exactly that supplementary force which the standing army of England requires. As the youngest member of your volunteer force, and as an humble individual Englishman, I shall see with the greatest pleasure every encouragement that is offered to the volunteers, and shall be extremely glad to witness every year an increase in their numbers."

The prizes were spread out on two long tables, and sections of the London Rifle Brigade, the Tower Hamlets, and the 19th and 26th Middlesex formed a guard of honour behind; and the winners were drawn up between the tables bearing the prizes and the stand. These winners were told off in succession as their names and the nature of their victory were read out by Earl Spencer, each man or set of men coming to the dais saluting Lord Napier and receiving from him the prize due. It was impossible for any bystander not to be struck with the aptitude his Lordship evinced. It is no easy matter to vary the terms in which prizes won under precisely similar circumstances are presented. The excellence of volunteering, the advantage of precision of aim, the analogy between success at the target and success in other of life's aims, the pleasure derived from being the medium of presentation, and the satisfaction inspired by the proved prowess of the recipients, are remarks applicable to all the winners on Saturday. But Lord Napier contrived to infuse a special personal sentiment into every gift, and in a brief, soldierly way made his remarks strike home to each hearer in turn. The Cambridge men were congratulated on their proficiency in the exact sciences having had practical exemplification at the rifle-butts; the Eton lads were addressed as gentlemen, with a certain emphasis on the word, implying full recognition of their manly claims; the English eight, who bore off the huge Elcho challenge shield on their shoulders, like armour-bearers to some giant, were told to take great care of the shield, because Scotland had a deep interest in it, and Ireland certainly meant to have it next year. Again, Lord Napier's own wide range of experience came into play when formally presenting some of the other prizes. The huge China Cup—a monster vessel in silver, grotesquely embossed and ornamented—was too large for the representatives winning it to carry away; so the speech from the dais referred to Lord Napier's own experience in China, and his knowledge that the English community there "never did things by halves." Another prize given was the occasion of a similar personal reference; and from first to last, throughout the ceremony, Lord Napier never seemed at a loss—never said too little or too much—but made the dignity his presence gave to the occasion even the more obvious by his bearing and address. There were but few people distinguished by social rank to support him. Earl Spencer stood almost alone. Lord Elcho was again absent, and Earl and Countess Grosvenor did not arrive until half an hour after the distribution was over. The Marquis of Donegall and some half-dozen ladies, with Countess Spencer, in the marquee, were, besides some members of the actual military or official staff of the association, the only people present with Lord Napier. This again struck one as a contrast to preceding years, when the brilliant staffs and suites of the Royal Duke or Prince giving the prizes away have given full spectacular effect to the ceremonial. It was dreadfully hot, and when Lord Napier first bowed his acknowledgments from the little dais or pedestal—for it was small enough for the latter word—the impulse was to beg him to replace his hat. This he did after a time, and Lord Spencer's bare head commanded sympathy next. Neither noble Lord appeared to suffer, however, and both declined the iced water thoughtfully sent from Lady Spencer's tent when the sun was fiercest. Altogether, we should say, that Saturday's was among the most interesting of the public appearances Lord Napier has made since his return from Abyssinia. It seemed more appropriate than that at the Crystal Palace; and the kindly, thoughtful features, gentle manners, and martial bearing of the hero of Magdala were never seen to greater advantage than when he smilingly congratulated the volunteers, and avowed his pride and pleasure at being one of them. Long after he left the ground, and indeed throughout the day, his praises were to be heard on all sides, and the conqueror of Theodore added a complete social success, on Saturday, to the other victories of his life. This record would be unfaithful if we were to omit the admiration given to the stately proportions of two Scotch winners. Sergeant Ross and Mr. Malcolm were in Highland dress, the former in the uniform of the London Scottish and the Master of Lovat in the tartan of his clan; both are of more than ordinarily stalwart build, and both received some of the loudest plaudits of the day as they strode across the turf to Lord Napier's place. There was none of the awkward prize-giving of some other years. The "piece of furniture" presented by one tradesman's firm, and the various articles of merchandise bestowed by others, were not presented publicly. Frequenters of Wimbledon will remember the embarrassment caused by the iron safe presented by a dealer in those useful articles, which the Duke of Cambridge had to formally hand over, and which neither his Grace nor the winner could do more than look at and walk round. There was nothing of this undignified character on Saturday. A few of the larger pieces, such as the China cup and the international trophy, were not carried away; but there is something elevated in the massiveness of plate, and the effect on the bystanders was widely different to that produced by the quaint gifts and heavy hardware of the dealers.

THE REVIEW.

The review was a failure, there being not more than 4000 men on the ground in arms, and many of the corps being mere skeletons. This failure was attributable to causes altogether outside the association. The volunteers cannot get over the Windsor disgrace, and the War Office and the South-Western Railway are joint objects of their wrath. It was significant to see the venerable Marquis of Donegall in plain clothes in Lady Spencer's tent, and to know that he had declined to bring down his fine corps, the London Irish, "until the War Office had learnt its business better." It was more significant to note the tone of the comments passed by volunteers who were looking on at a review of their body for the first time in their lives. To criticise the performance of those who marched past the saluting-point would be superfluous. Something far more serious is at stake. The confidence of the great volunteer body seems to be shaken; and better regulations from the War Office are imperatively called for in the future. Whether the force itself has grown careless by prosperity, or become spoilt by indiscriminate praise, are questions upon which the officers commanding corps could give useful opinions. This is certain, matters are in a far less satisfactory state than when the movement was young.

THE WINNER OF THE QUEEN'S PRIZE.

Corporal Peake, of Manchester, having been deprived, by the decision of the council of the National Rifle Association, of the honour of being the winner of her Majesty's prize, although he had made the highest score, the grand prize of the Wimbledon meeting of 1868 devolves upon Lieutenant Carslake, of the 5th Somerset Volunteers. The ground on which Mr. Peake was disqualified was that he had used a cartridge with a lubricating wad, instead of the regulation cartridge, with a solid base, half scraper and half wad, supplied to all the competitors. Mr. Peake denies this charge, and still intends to claim the prize, having sent a telegram to the council, last Saturday, just before the prizes were distributed to the winners, informing them that he will commence legal proceedings. A friend of Corporal Peake, at whose house that gentleman is now lying very ill from over-exertion and shock to the system, writes to say that Mr. Peake distinctly avers that, in shooting for the Queen's prize, he used the ammunition served out to him pure and simple as it was, neither adding to nor deducting from it in any way whatever, and that he fairly and honestly won the prize. His illness is assigned as the reason why he has not published a full statement of his case.

In the mean time, as a necessary consequence of the decision of the council against Mr. Peake, the Queen's prize is bestowed upon the gentleman who made the next highest score, Lieutenant J. B. Carslake, whose portrait we have the pleasure of presenting to our subscribers. Mr. John Barham Carslake is twenty-two years of age. He is the son of Mr. J. H. B. Carslake, chief of the firm of Messrs. Carslake and Barham, solicitors, and Town Clerk of Bridgewater. He is the grandson of a veteran naval officer, the late Captain Carslake, of Exeter and Sidmouth, who was a Lieutenant on board the Victory, under Nelson, at the Battle of Trafalgar, and one of those who saw the hero receive his death-wound. The maternal grandfather of Mr. J. B. Carslake is a gentleman well known throughout the west of England for his learning and philanthropy, Dr. T. F. Barham, of Newton Abbot, a county magistrate of Devon, who was formerly a physician at Exeter. The winner of the Queen's prize was educated at Rugby and Oxford. He was Captain of the Rugby School Rifle Corps, and shot for it three years in the national competition at Wimbledon; he was afterwards a member of the Oxford University Rifle Corps, among whose representatives he again contended at Wimbledon in 1865, 1866, and 1867. He resides at Bridgewater, and holds the rank of Lieutenant in the 5th Somerset Volunteer Rifle Corps. He camped with the Victorias on the common. His success on this occasion has been hailed with the more gratification in his native county, since the magnificent China challenge cup, for which he also shot, has been awarded to the Somersetshire men. The champion marksman of England for 1868 was welcomed in the town of Bridgewater on Monday with a triumphal procession to escort him to his home.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Legislative Body, on Monday, resumed the debate on the Budget, and finally passed the ordinary Budget by 205 votes against 15. The Session of the French Chamber was closed on Tuesday by Imperial decree, the new loan having been previously passed by a vote of 213 against 16. The Corps Législatif has repealed, without discussion, an article of the Code Napoleon which enacts that in all suits between master and servant the master's words shall be taken as conclusive, no evidence being admissible against it.

The students of the Quartier Latin made manifestations in several cafés on Sunday night in favour of M. Henri Rochefort, who is prosecuted for not inserting in the *Lanterne* a long communication served upon him by M. Pinard. The manifestation was confined to the clinking of beer-glasses and the drinking of M. Rochefort's health, and we do not hear that any arrests were made.

Judgment has been given in the French Court against the United States Government in the claim they made on M. Armand to recover large sums of money alleged to have been paid to him by the Southern States in 1863 for vessels to be used in the struggle they were engaged in with the Washington Government. The Court considered that the United States Government had not proved that the sums paid to M. Armand were their property, nor that such sums came out of the treasury of the Southern States; and, further, that the contracts contained no stipulation leading to the supposition that the order for the vessels had been given by the Southern States.

SPAIN.

A telegram from Madrid states that a report has reached that city that a conspiracy against the Government has been discovered among the crew of the frigate *Villa de Madrid*, that conveyed the Duke and Duchess de Montpensier to Lisbon. The conspiracy is said to have had for its object the landing of the exiled Generals at the Azores and the Canary Islands, thence to be conveyed to some point on the Spanish coast and effect a landing. The commandant of the frigate is said to have frustrated the plan. Admiral Mundeiz Nunez has resigned, and all the superior officers of the squadron have followed his example. It is also stated that there is more distress throughout the country than at any previous time during the last half century. From Old Castile, always regarded as the granary of Spain, thousands, it is said, are flocking to the adjoining provinces in search of labour and food; and the streets of the chief central cities, and even of the capital itself, are crowded with an influx of people imploring aid for themselves and their families. A general opinion seems prevalent that affairs cannot remain in their present condition. "Hunger," it is remarked, "is the most powerful ally of revolutionists; and the people, overburdened with taxes they cannot pay, and pressed by sheer want, will be readily induced to ascribe their sufferings to the present Government."

ITALY.

The Parliamentary opposition against the tobacco contract has been abandoned, and the contract has been signed by the representatives of the Government and the company to whom the tobacco monopoly has been farmed.

A Roman telegram says that the police have discovered the commencement of a mine for blowing up the fortifications of Mount Aventine. Two sentinels were recently wounded while on duty at night. The police, moreover, seized a quantity of red and black shirts. The licenses have been withdrawn from all wineshops in the Roman Campagna.

PRUSSIA.

All soldiers, natives of Schleswig-Holstein, who entered the Prussian army on April 1, 1867, for the prescribed term of three years, will be sent home after having served half their term, thereafter forming part of the Army Reserve.

AUSTRIA.

The national shooting competition which is just now taking place at Vienna is creating great interest and some excitement throughout Germany from its assumed political significance. It is looked on by some as a kind of test applied by Austria to the feelings of the German populations, and, in some sort, as a proof of her willingness to remodel her institutions on the widest and most liberal basis, if by so doing she could once again become part of Germany. The *Morgenpost*, in its article on the festival, says:—"Austria, regenerated, confiding in the spirit of liberty, is of more value than a whole collection of captured guns."

The Croatian question may be considered as settled. The two deputations sent by the Hungarian and Croatian Diets for this purpose have drawn up the agreement between the two countries in a final shape, and it has now only to be submitted to the two Legislatures. As both the majorities and minorities of the two Diets were represented in the deputations, and as the members of each have acquiesced in the terms of the agreement, there is every probability of its being accepted by the two Diets. And it may well be accepted, for if there is to be any connection at all between the two countries it could not be framed in a more liberal spirit.

RUSSIA.

Prince Gortschakoff has issued a circular noticing the adhesion of Prussia to the proposal that the different Governments should come to an agreement to exclude the use of explosive missiles in warfare, and suggests that the commissioners from the different Powers should meet at St. Petersburg on Oct. 13 to draw up a protocol with that view.

Official information has been received at St. Petersburg that hostilities with Bokhara are at an end, and that peace has been concluded with the Emir.

BULGARIA.

Disturbances have broken out in the Turkish province of Bulgaria, and several engagements have taken place between the insurgents and the Turkish troops near Rustchuk. The Porte has sent a large force to suppress the revolt. Several Bulgarians have been arrested at Giurgevo, one of whom was provided with a

Russian passport. The latest official advices from the Danube state that most of the bands which crossed from Wallachia were either killed, wounded, or taken prisoners. The few remaining were expected to be captured soon.

ROUMANIA.

The elections to the Senate have terminated. Three fourths of the successful candidates are adherents of the present Government. The official journal, *Romanul*, deprecates the recent outbreak in the province of Bulgaria as detrimental to the common national cause, and exhorts the inhabitants of Bulgaria to preserve tranquillity. It asserts, at the same time, that the Government has taken all necessary measures for the suppression of any agitation on Roumanian soil in favour of the insurgents. The Minister Bratianu has left for Giurgevo, in order to direct steps to be taken for speedily terminating any unlawful co-operation with the insurrectionary movement.

THE UNITED STATES.

Both Houses of Congress have passed Mr. Banks's bill for the protection of naturalised citizens abroad. The bill disavows the claim of foreign Governments to allegiance from naturalised American citizens, all declarations, instructions, or opinions of any officers of the United States to the contrary notwithstanding. In the third section of the bill a repeal clause for the benefit of those States that detained citizens of the Union on the allegation that naturalisation did not dissolve a subject's native allegiance was struck out.

Congress, having ratified the purchase of Alaska from the Russian Government, adjourned on Monday until Sept. 21. It has expressed its distrust of the President and its fear that mob law will prevail in the South at the November elections.

The President has ordered the troops to be withdrawn from the restored States.

Mr. Seward has officially announced that twenty-six States have ratified the Constitutional Amendment changing the basis of the national representation and the suffrage.

Mr. Seward and Mr. Burlingame have signed a treaty between the United States and China, which provides full reciprocal relations, both political and commercial, between the two countries, and also religious freedom and non-intervention on either side.

A riot has occurred at Millican, Texas, between whites and negroes, consequent upon an attempt of the latter to lynch a white man. It is reported that fifty negroes and several whites were killed. The military restored order.

President Johnson has issued a proclamation announcing the ratification of constitutional amendment by North Carolina. He regards the ratification by the Florida Legislature as inoperative on account of its having occurred prior to the passage of the bill admitting that State to the Union.

PANAMA.

A revolution took place in Panama on July 5. The elections throughout the State had gone in favour of the Conservative party; and, to keep them out of power, General Ponce, the commander of the forces, imprisoned President Diaz, dissolved the existing legitimate Government, and installed a Provisional Government. It was feared that an armed collision might take place between the parties; otherwise (as the telegram puts it) the matter would be of little import to foreign residents in the State.

VENEZUELA.

A revolution has also broken out in Venezuela. The President, Marshal Falcon, had left for Curaçoa (Dutch West Indies). A new Government, said to be composed of very respectable men, had taken office, pending the elections, and in its manifesto it says that one of its objects must be the raising of the credit of the country by a strict fulfilment of the engagements entered into and the application of sound economical doctrines.

HAYTI.

Intelligence from Hayti states that Salnave has declared himself Emperor.

PARAGUAY.

According to a private despatch, said to have been received from the Brazilian General, that long expected event, the fall of Humaita, has at last taken place. Simultaneously, we hear of peace resolutions being introduced into the House of Representatives at Buenos Ayres. The American Minister in Brazil insists that the United States gun-boat Wasp should be permitted to ascend the Parana, and threatens, if his demand be not complied with, to leave the country.

A telegram received in the City on Thursday, by way of Lisbon, from Buenos Ayres, states that the Brazilian forces, 6000 strong, sent to make a reconnaissance of the Tehicuari, had been surprised by the Paraguayans near the river Tabaré, and fearfully beaten. A great many prisoners, horses, and arms fell into the hands of the Paraguayans. General Caceres, of Corrientes, has prohibited the sale of horses and cattle to the Brazilians. Humaita is said to be as strong as ever. Tehicuari is well fortified. The river is closed with chains.

ABYSSINIAN CURIOSITIES.—The most interesting collection of Abyssinian curiosities which has been hitherto brought together in England is now being exhibited at the Crystal Palace. If any inferences may be drawn from a display of articles having but little direct connection with each other, the deductions suggested by the collection of which we speak are, firstly, that the Abyssinians possessed a form of Christianity in many respects similar to the Roman Catholic religion; and, secondly, that they had made but little progress in the art of war. Among the curiosities exhibited at the Palace are a *tabot*, or *ta'ernacle*, used for protecting the sacramental elements, and a sacred slab, corresponding to the stone used on the altar in Roman Catholic churches. A silver chalice and some gold crosses are also shown, and on these several scriptural scenes are exquisitely engraved. Theodore's shield, on the inside of which, it is said, some spots of the King's blood are still perceptible, occupies a conspicuous place in the collection. The sword is shaped after the fashion of an inverted figure of five, attack being made with the point. Some gold and silver anklets are interesting as illustrations of domestic dress; and the horns used for carrying wine or water recall very primitive associations. The most interesting, however, of all the articles are the *bitea*, or armlets, composed of gold and silver, which were awarded as a distinction for services similar to those for which the English soldier or sailor obtains the Victoria Cross, and the identical fetters which Dr. Blanc, one of the captives, wore on his legs from 1866 to 1868. These are composed each of four large links, and weigh altogether 16lb. There are no fastenings on the large links in which the legs were confined, the junction of the ends of the circles—if we may use such a phrase—being effected by hammering with a stone. The inside of these links have been made quite bright by constant friction.

CHAMELEONS.—It may interest some of our readers who give their attention to natural history to learn that a pair of chameleons, in the possession of the Hon. Lady Cust, of Leasow Castle, Cheshire, have produced nine active young ones, like little alligators, less than an inch long. Such a birth has been, it is believed, very rare in this country, for the impression has hitherto existed that the chameleon, like most of the genus *Lacerta*, was produced from an egg. The little animal is, however, most clearly viviparous and not oviparous, although the stories told of the lizard tribe in "the story books" are most perplexing. To name a few of them—1. The crocodile, which is the largest of the lizard tribe, and has even attained the size of 18½ ft. in length, is confidently stated as laying eggs, which she covers with sand and leaves, to be hatched by the sun, and these have been met with in the rivers Nile, Niger, and Ganges. 2. *Lacerta Gangetica*, unknown to Linnaeus, but brought to this country from Bengal in 1747 by the late Dr. Mead, is said to be furnished with a false belly, like the opossum, where the young can be received for protection in time of danger; in this case the egg must have been hatched in the belly of the animal like the viper. 3. The alligator, or American crocodile, lays a vast quantity of eggs in the sand, near the banks of lakes and rivers, and leaves them to be hatched by the sun, and the young are seldom seen. 4. The cayman, or Antilles crocodile, has furnished its eggs to many collections. 5. A salamander was opened by M. Maupertuis, and its belly was found full of eggs, but in "Les Mémoires de l'Académie Royale des Sciences" it is stated that after a similar operation of the kind "fifty young ones, resembling the parent animal, were found in its womb all alive and actively running about the room." This is the character of the young chameleons born at Leasow Castle, and the difficulty is to ascertain how they ought to be fed, for the male and female appear altogether indifferent about their progeny. Perhaps some traveller from the countries where they are indigenous can throw some light upon the subject.

BARON BEUST'S REPLY TO THE PAPAL ALLOCATION.

THE text of Baron Beust's reply to the Papal allocation on the Austrian marriage and education laws is now published. It is dated Vienna, July 3, and addressed to Baron von Meysenburg. We extract its essential paragraphs:—

We cannot (it says), in the first place, admit the obligation which imposes on the Holy See the necessity of following certain precedents, and of adopting towards Austria the same proceedings as towards other countries of which the Holy See has had to complain. Is it possible, in fact, to draw any comparison? Have we attacked the territory or the property of the Church? Have we oppressed the Catholic religion and its ministers? Putting aside examples which do not bear on the case, we may, I think, boldly affirm that there is no country in Europe where the Catholic Church has so privileged a position as in Austria, notwithstanding the laws of May 25. This circumstance ought to have been taken into account before the Imperial Government was confounded in the same reprobation with other Governments, which were in opposition to the Church and the Catholic religion in a different way. We can understand that the Holy Father may have felt it to be indispensable to protest against the laws which modify the situation created by the Concordat of 1855. We fully expected a proceeding of this kind, and we might have accepted it silently even if its form were less conciliatory than we permitted ourselves to hope. But what we cannot pass over without objection is the condemnation hurled against the fundamental laws on which the new institutions of the empire are based. These laws were not the subject of dispute; and by attacking them as it has, the Holy See deeply wounds the national feeling, and gives to the present difference a meaning that is very much to be regretted even in the interest of the Church. Instead of simply contesting this or that application of the principles which form the bases of the present Government of Austria, and which are the fruit of the happy accord between the peoples of the empire and their Sovereign, it is the principles themselves that are condemned. The Holy See thus extends its representation to objects which we can by no means admit to be within its authority. It even omits a question which already produced only too much excitement, by directing men's minds to matters where political will be associated with religious passions. Finally, by condemning laws which include the principle of the liberty of the Church, and thus offering it compensation for the privileges it loses, it renders more difficult a conciliatory attitude towards the Government. It may not be useless to remark here that these laws expressly guarantee to the Church the property of the wealth it possesses in Austria. This stipulation proves that the laws in question are not hostile to the Church, since they maintain to her those rights of which she has been deprived in so many other countries. It is not for me to judge in what measure this last consideration ought to mitigate the judgment of the Court of Rome. What I have not a shadow of doubt about is, that the people of Austria will find consolation in remembering that more than one very Catholic nation is subject to legal arrangements of the same kind which yet live in peace with the Church, and that there is especially one great and powerful empire in Europe whose tendencies towards progress and liberty have been always allied with very decided attachment to the Catholic faith, and which, though governed by laws quite as abominable, has, up to the latest moment, been blessed with the indulgent sympathies of the Holy See. My despatch of June 17 last anticipated the bad consequences which the allocation would produce if it was not worded in very moderate language. I regret extremely that the Court of Rome did not pay more attention to these anticipations. They have been completely realised. I do not think the Catholic population of the empire have more zeal now than they have for the status of their religion; on the contrary, we see an increase of ardour in the attacks directed against the Church, the clergy, and the Pope. This hostility would have been confined within the narrowest limits, and would have been easily appeased, if the special questions affected by the laws of May 25 had alone been treated of in the Papal allocation.

Before concluding I must here also express the painful surprise which the appeal addressed to the Hungarian bishops in the closing sentences of the allocation has produced. It seems to me that Rome ought to be thankful for the perfect tact and reserve with which these delicate matters have been hitherto treated in Hungary. It would be undesirable, in every point of view, to raise new differences, and thereby to augment the embarrassments which already exist. But it is especially in the very interest of the Court of Rome that it appears to us inappropriate to arouse the national susceptibility of the Hungarians. The appearance of foreign pressure would produce in that nation results the opposite to those which the Holy See desires, and we should see a storm raised against the legitimate influence of the Court of Rome similar to that which is raging on this side of the Leitha.

These are the observations suggested to us by a perusal of the Pontifical allocation. Lay them before his Eminence the Cardinal Secretary of State. We shall none the less persevere in the way we have begun. Whilst we shall continue to maintain intact the rights of the State and respect for the laws, we shall allow the Church to enjoy in peace the liberties which our laws secure to her; and we shall endeavour to observe, in the mutual relations between Church and State, a spirit of conciliation and equity which I hope will be reciprocal.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.—Last week 4053 deaths were registered in London and thirteen other large towns of the United Kingdom. The mortality was at the high rate of 33 per 1000. In the metropolis the rate was 31, and the Registrar-General states that at one time the temperature in the shade rose to 96 deg. Fahrenheit. The mean temperature of the week was 69 deg., and in no other town was there any approach to these figures. The deaths in London exceeded the estimated number by 310, and were more by 243 than those recorded in the previous week.

DESTRUCTION OF FARM PROPERTY BY FIRE.—There has been a great destruction of farm property by fire in Kent during the last day or two. Two homesteads at Fets Street, near Ashford, situated a few hundred yards distance from each other, and both occupied by Mr. Daniel Kingland, were, on Thursday week, totally destroyed by fire—dwelling-houses, barns, granaries, stables, and corn and hay stacks being all consumed. The fire even spread to the meadows and fields of standing corn, and was not extinguished until it had done considerable damage in this direction. Immense heaps of burning corn and smouldering timber remained throughout the next day, and it is supposed that sparks were carried by the wind to another homestead belonging to Mr. Kingland, situated some distance off, to which he had removed; for, on the evening of Saturday, the outbuildings were discovered to be on fire, and although the buildings had tiled roofs, the excessive rapidity of the fire baffled every effort to check it, and the granaries, barns, dwelling-house, and the entire farm stock were destroyed in an incredibly short space of time. It was only by great exertion that some detached stabling was preserved. Mr. Kingland's buildings are not insured, and his loss in this respect alone will probably be between £4000 and £5000. The entire season's clip of wool was totally destroyed, and upwards of 500 score of pickled pork in barrels, besides a large stock of ale. About nine o'clock last Saturday morning a wheat-field partially cut, situated near the gate-house on a level crossing of the Margate branch of the South-Eastern Railway, was discovered to be on fire. It was evidently ignited by a spark from a passing engine falling among the shocks of wheat, and the north-east wind caused it to spread to the standing corn. The fire destroyed about thirteen acres of corn, and the damage is estimated at about £400. Numerous other fires of a like nature are reported.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—On Thursday a meeting of this institution was held at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., vice-president, in the chair. Richard Lewis, Esq., the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, a reward of £5 7s. 6d. was voted to pay the expenses of the Licensed Victualler life-boat of the institution, stationed at Hunstanton, in going off on the 23rd ult., during a strong north-east gale, and bringing ashore a lad who had been left in charge of the yacht *Foam*, of Wisbeach, which was at anchor off St. Edmunds in a dangerous position, with the sea breaking over her. A reward of £7 17s. was likewise voted to pay the expenses of the Sheffield life-boat of the society at Runswick, Yorkshire, in going off on the same day during a north-north-east gale and in a heavy sea, and rescuing two men from the schooner *Margaret Cunningham*, of Whitby, which became a total wreck on the Kettleness reefs on the south point of Runswick Bay. Rewards were also granted to the crews of the life-boats of the institution at Lytham and Blackpool for recent services. Various other rewards were granted to the crews of shore-boats for saving life from shipwrecks on the coast. It was reported that Walter Cave, Esq., of Lowndes-street, had forwarded the society an additional liberal contribution of £100. A legacy of £60 had also been received from the executors of the late Mrs. Mary Chapman, of Aldborough. The late Thomas Temple Silver, Esq., of Woodbridge, had likewise bequeathed to the institution a legacy of £50, duty free. Payments amounting to nearly £3000 were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments. The *Odd Fellows' life-boat*, the *Manchester Unity*, was to be exhibited at the Crystal Palace, at their annual fête on Monday next, and was expected to attract considerable attention. The thanks of the institution, inscribed on vellum, were ordered to be given to Captain Burgess, R.N., late inspecting commander of the coastguard at Swanage; Captain Preston, R.N., of Lowestoft; A. S. Palmer, Esq., of Warden, in acknowledgment of their valuable co-operation in the management of the life-boats at the Isle of Purbeck, Lowestoft, Pakefield, and Runswick. Similar thanks were likewise presented to Robert Cullum, Esq., late collector of H.M. Customs at Newport, Monmouthshire. The Rev. John Gilmore, of Ramsgate, had again contributed to the current number of *Monmouth's Magazine* a very interesting and valuable article on the life-boat work. Reports were read from Captain Ward, R.N., the inspector, and Captain D. Robertson, R.N., the assistant inspector of life-boats, on their recent visits to various life-boat stations of the society on the coast. The inspector recommended that the present life-boat at Fraserburgh be replaced by another boat. The proceedings then terminated.

EDUCATION IN MASSACHUSETTS.

(From "Letters by an English Working Man in America," in the *Daily News*.)

TOUCHING the education of the workmen, I may inform you that for the last few days I have been visiting the public schools of Boston, and am perfectly astounded by what I have seen. Beginning at the little tots of five years old, I have traced young America through his infant room, grammar school, high-class form, and college. Everywhere I have found equality; the sons of the wealthiest citizens side by side with the children of day labourers, street hawkers' brats "taking down" the heirs of senators; and nobody is apparently a bit the worse for it. Everywhere I find handsome buildings springing up, in spite of the bricklayers' strike; and when I ask what they are for, I am told schools, schools, schools.

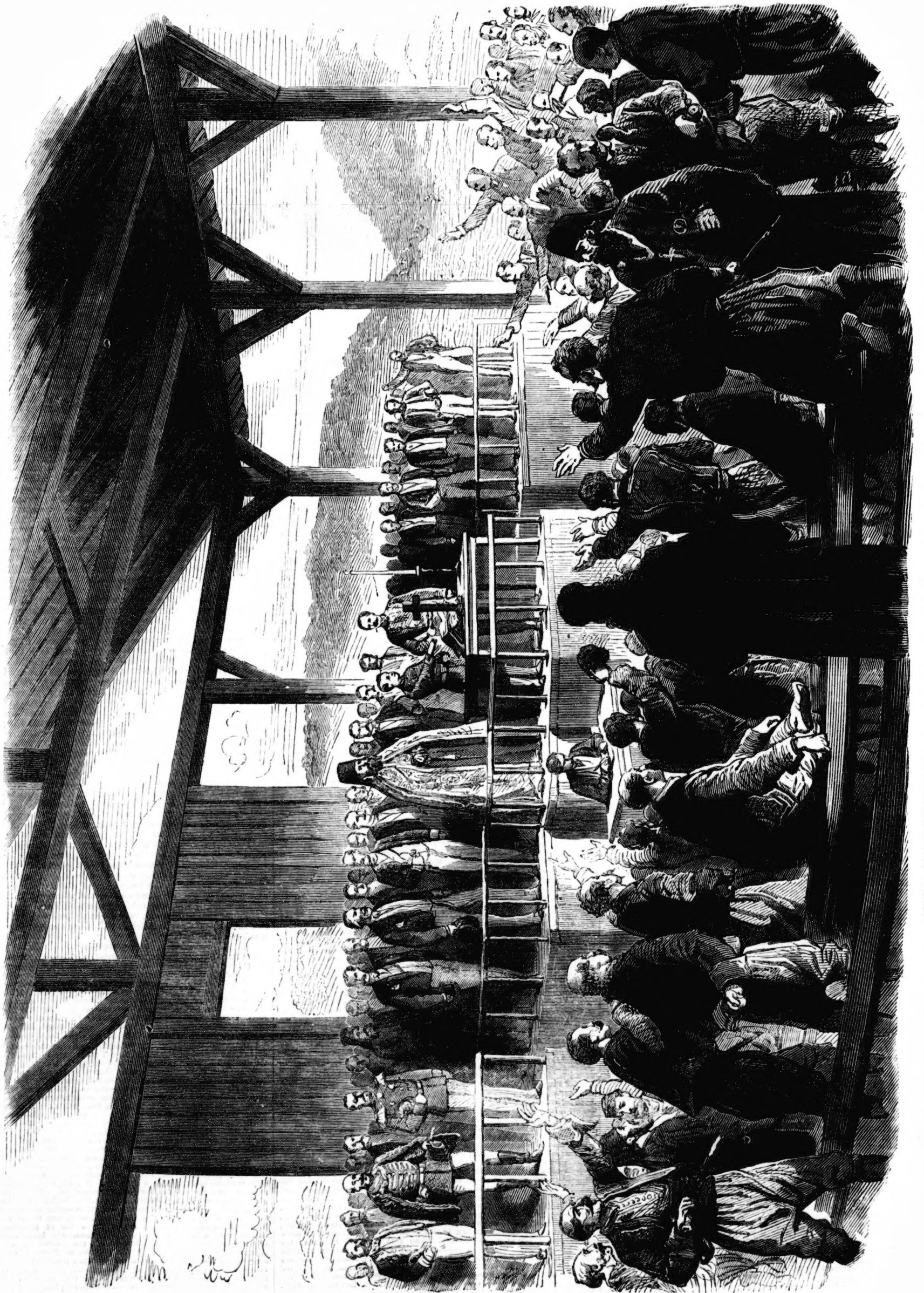
A hundred thousand dollars is thought a fleabite for this one city to expend on a single schoolhouse; they have several in hand now at about that figure. "Where do you get your money from?" I ask in amazement, as brick, granite, and marble tower up before my astonished eyes. "Why, you see," replies my most obliging guide, the superintendent of the public schools, "although Boston is a wealthy city, we are not rich enough to afford the luxury of having very much crime and pauperism among us, so we are obliged to educate our people; and although this year the corporation has voted a million dollars to the good work, there is not a soul who doubts that it will pay." Think of this, wealthy Englishmen, who are for ever wondering where the money is to come from to clothe the naked minds of the little ones. One city, with a little more than a quarter of a million population, has devoted this princely sum in a single year for this grand purpose, and it is known by experience that it pays. Nothing is more certain than that knowledge is power; and if England wishes to hold her own, she must keep pace with her mighty rival. A nation of disciplined men, such as are turned out by the public schools of America, will be more than a match for an ignorant mob, whenever and wherever they shall be opposed to them.

Not only is there free education for every child here, but the law compels a boy to attend the school. A little truant can be arrested by the nearest policeman and taken before a tribunal to give an account of himself. This law is, however, chiefly for two reasons, very rarely enforced—first, because there is so seldom an occasion for it, the parents being fully alive to their children's interests, and generally taking care that they attend school with the utmost regularity; and, secondly, because of that natural shrinking from pushing little matters to their logical extremes, which seems to distinguish the English race from others all over the world.

Upon the subject of the system of teaching pursued here I would speak with the greatest diffidence; but I must say that it appears to me to be most practical and successful. The first thing which impressed me was the very superior tone of the teachers, and the next their great number. There are no monitors. Every pupil, from little toddlers to his awful elder in the cutaway coat and stand-up collar comes directly under the eye of a well-educated and painstaking man or woman, who regards him as an intelligent human being, whose intellectual development is a very serious matter. There is a properly qualified teacher, with a salary varying from 550 dols. to 4000 dols. a year, to almost every class of from thirty to forty scholars. In very few cases is one teacher allowed to attend to more than two classes. Every infant, whether of the "terrible" or lisping order, has a desk and a chair to himself or herself, the number of these separate seats in the preparatory or infant schools alone amounting to over 16,000. In the preparatory schools, besides the desk and chair, each child has a slate with a wide frame, on which are copies of the troublesome problems to be solved, in the shape of parallel lines, curves, circles, letters, and figures, which are thus made familiar to the eye of the poor little puzzled one. I am not sure that five is not too tender an age to begin with; I am inclined to prefer the more sedate period of seven; but the little folk looked very happy and cheerful as they were put through their paces the other day, and I am told that every care is taken, by means of frequent breaks and changes of study, to relieve and interest them. . . . In each class the pupil remains about six months, until at the age of eight or nine promotion to the grammar-school arrives. Here, being well grounded in the three Rs, the boys are pushed forward in history, grammar, geography, drawing, music, military drill, and mathematics; and the girls in the same studies, with such differences and additions as the nature of their duties in after-life demand. Physical training is an essential element of school culture here; and the results are said to be extremely satisfactory, a healthier development of the body being invariably found to strengthen the mind. The various motions gone through by the little children I saw are intended to lay the foundation for a good position in sitting and standing, a graceful carriage of the body, full development of the chest, general symmetry of form, proper habits of breathing, development of the voice, besides distinct and forcible articulation in reading, speaking, and singing. From the grammar-school those pupils who show an aptitude for pursuing the higher branches of study are selected by examination and placed in the Latin or English high schools, where they are fitted either for college or the business of life direct. A knowledge of oratory, algebra, the laws of mechanics, English composition, and military drill, the French language, and Latin, with other things which are, as the bill says, "too numerous to mention," was evidently possessed by every lad I saw there; and this education is within the reach of every working man's son in Boston.

MILLE ADELINA PATTI was married, on Wednesday morning, to the Marquis de Caux, at the Roman Catholic chapel, Clapham-park-road. M. Costa and the Duke of Manchester signed the contract as witnesses on behalf of the bride. The witnesses on behalf of the bridegroom were the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, Ambassador of France, and M. Mure, Secretary at the French Embassy. The bride was Mlle. Rita, daughter of Signor Mario; Miss Harris, daughter of Mr. Augustus Harris, of the Royal Italian opera; and Mlle. Zandi. The chapel was crowded by a distinguished assembly, amongst whom were a large number of musical celebrities—M. Costa, Signor Mario, Mlle. Grisi, Mr. Gye, &c.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST SUNSTROKE.—In a note addressed to the President of the Board of Health of New York, where it is said as many as 250 deaths are known to have occurred during three days of last month as a direct result of excessive heat, Dr. Harris, the registrar and corresponding secretary of the board, suggests the following brief precautions against sunstroke:—1. When exposed to excessive heat, the natural perspiration of sweating must not be checked. Let the sweat flow, and do not throw off all the flannel garments. 2. Wash the head and neck frequently in cold water, and, if exposed in the sun or in any very hot place, wear upon the top of the head, under a hat or otherwise, a light handkerchief, or other thin folds of cloth, with cold water. Remember that the head and neck must be kept cool, and also be free from the pressure of tight clothing. 3. If headache, dizziness, a feeling of tightness across the forehead, a failing of sight, or a feeling of weakness and prostration ("giving out") occurs, let the person immediately go to a cool place and lie down, with the back and the feet covered, and have a few quarts of cold water poured slowly upon the head and the sides of the neck. If the symptoms are not at once relieved, send for the nearest good physician. 4. What to do until the physician comes: If the patient be still sweating, let him drink freely of cold black tea or coffee; tea is best. But, if sweating has ceased, there is very great danger; then the head, face, neck, and entire chest should be rapidly sponged with ice-water, and a bag of pounded ice, well covered with a towel, should be kept under the head and the back of the neck. Give a mixture of the carbonate of ammonia (hartshorn) and muriate of ammonia, eight or ten grains of each in water, every ten or fifteen minutes, until the physician comes, or until the patient rallies and sweats. Enfeebled, intemperate, poorly-fed, over-fed, and irritable persons are most in danger of the fatal effects of heat. People who live and sleep in foul air and unventilated places, and who are over-worked and under-fed, and who use intoxicating drinks, suffer greatly. Instead of intoxicating drink and the bad habit of morning and evening draughts, let good black tea and coffee, and good nourishing and well-cooked food be regularly taken. Bathe the whole body early in the morning, in order to have a clean skin and good natural sweating during the day. Labourers and others who have much to do should rise so early that they can have several rests, and keep in the shade from eleven till four in these very hot days. And let this most important fact be remembered—viz., that by natural sweating (perspiration) the body is kept healthfully cool when exposed to these terrible heats, and that over-exertion, passion, and all kinds of intemperance must be avoided.



SERVIA: PRINCE MILAN TAKING THE OATH TO THE CONSTITUTION BEFORE THE SKUTSCHINA.

SERBIA.

A SWIFT and terrible doom has overtaken the murderers of Prince Michael. Fourteen of them, among whom were Radamiritch and his two sons, having been condemned to death, their execution took place on Tuesday morning. Prince Alexander Karageorgievich and his secretary were sentenced to twenty years' penal servitude, another of the accused to twenty years' hard labour, and another to five years' imprisonment. On this subject a contemporary remarks:—"The severity of the sentence, coupled with the attitude of the foreign Powers and the resolute bearing of Turkey, may read an expensive lesson to those restless Pan-Slavists who are still troubling the Danube and neighbouring provinces with their seditious intrigues. Continental agitators would do well to ask themselves, also, whether, on the whole, political assassination pays. We do not ask whether political assassination is just, for that question brings up ideas which we cannot expect them to understand, far less to share. We put the matter on no higher ground than that of profit and loss. Abraham Lincoln is dead, but his death only lent strength to Abolitionism. Prince Michael is dead, but the objects of his murderers have not been brought a whit nearer. The Emperor of the French is not dead, though select committees of assassins have again and again met to see how they might best send him to a world in which *own-prince* and press laws would be beyond his reach; but somehow their hostility has missed its mark, and the effort to shoot him down without giving him a chance of defence has done more than a host of Portogys could have accomplished to make his hold on the French throne secure."

In a recent number of our Paper we published the proceedings in the Skupschina during the election of regents; and we this week print an engraving portraying a similar scene—this, namely, which took place when the oath to the constitution was administered to Prince Milan in presence of the National Parliament.

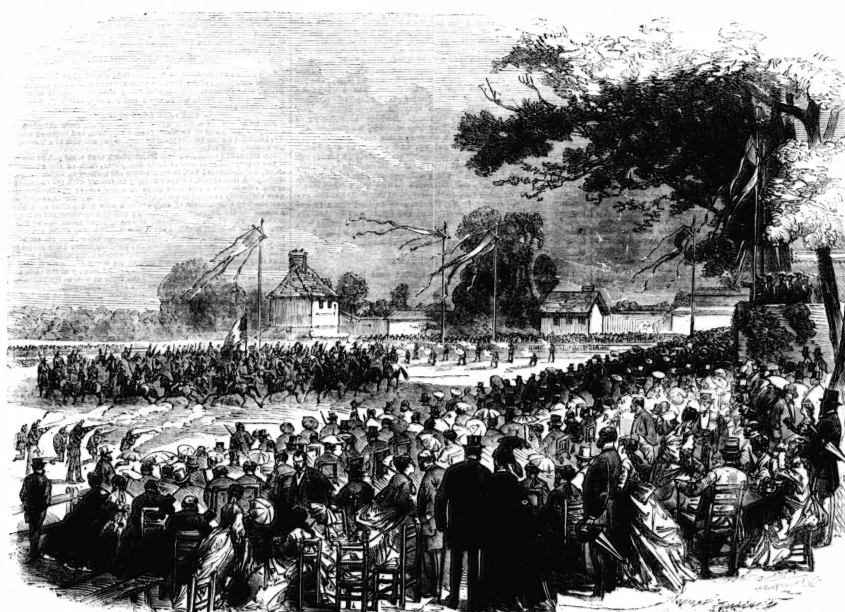
A CARROUSEL AT ST. CYR.

It was only the other day that we gave some account of the visit of the Prince Imperial to the Military School of St. Cyr, where the pupils were reviewed and the various departments were inspected, and a scientific lecture was delivered in the School of Chemistry, and, finally, a grand steeplechase was run. This week we publish illustrations of the festivities held at the same celebrated establishment on the occasion of their annual "carrousel," when youth and vigour, and address all have their share in the proceedings, which



LIEUT. CARSLAKE, WINNER OF THE QUEEN'S PRIZE AT WIMBLEDON.
(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY HERBERT WATKINS, OF REGENT STREET.)

partake also of the nature of a series of family reunions, since parents and guardians, brothers and sisters, cousins, aunts, and uncles are among the invited guests, and witness the prowess of the young cadets with all the satisfaction in the world. It was a wonderful scene when this great festival was held, and we are to see to the latest Paris fashions in the trim, old-fashioned gardens of M. de Maitreton; to witness the long train, the demi-skirts, the wondrous head-gear; to hear the talking and laughing, and take precautions for making everything go off well, and the system which he has introduced since he came to the presidency of the school has been followed by marked success. The carrousel of St. Cyr do not consist of a mere military mélange of badly-executed manoeuvres, for the pupils exhibit a precision and intelligence altogether remarkable, especially in those favourite feats of horsemanship which are a peculiar feature of the school. Many of these lads, habituated from infancy to manage a horse, are admirable riders, and the exhibition of the *Académie* represented in our Engraving is one of the most striking proceedings of the day. The carrousel commenced by various evolutions, including circles, Maitre crosses, attacking in column and serpentine, executed by lancers, all of which terminated, without the least accident, by a skirmish of cavalry in an encounter supposed to represent the "defence of the regimental column"—a mimic in which the infantry took part, making a tremendous fusillade with the chapepot, which, answered by the pistols of the cavalry, made an uproar before which few of the fair guests shrink, however, since the applause from hands less generous was almost as deafening as the small artillery itself. Then followed sabre practice, and the first part was concluded by the distribution by the infantry pupils of hundreds of charming bouquets to the ladies. The entrance of the horses from the Tarbes, with their piquet saddles and ornamented manes, made a great sensation; for it was known that the pupils were then about to exhibit that riding of the *Académie* which is always so graceful and interesting. There was some danger in this performance, but no accident took place, and it was followed by the steeplechase ridden by the scholars three abreast, and achieved in spite of all those artificial banks, brooks, rails, and hurdles which are the usual obstacles on such occasions. This closed the performance, and soon afterwards the company departed to the railway station, delighted by the events of the day and lost in their praise of this celebrated French military school.



CARROUSEL AT THE FRENCH MILITARY SCHOOL OF ST. CYR: DEFENDING THE FLAG.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—No. 342.

THE CELEBRATED COUNT-OUT.

THE advocates of the late Metropolitan Cattle Market Bill moaned, and groaned, and almost wept over the count-out on Thursday night last week as most inopportune, and, further, denounced it as an unjustifiable party manoeuvre; but, in truth, it was opportune—that is, well timed; and, though unquestionably a party manoeuvre, subsequent events have proved that this count-out was not an unjustifiable move. It was well timed, at all events, in one sense. The House has been over-worked of late—over-worked in the hottest weather that we have had for many years. There had been a very lively and exciting discussion of five hours on the Corrupt Practices Bill in the morning, everybody was tired and jaded, and it was a great relief to get away at half-past nine o'clock instead of sitting there in the hot atmosphere until three in the morning. Considering this, then, the count-out was opportune, or well timed; and neither was the party manoeuvre unjustifiable. The bill was, as we say of condemned plays, doomed. All but the blindest partisans saw even then that it would be impossible to pass it. It was killed on the following night. If we had sat on Thursday night the result would have been the same. This count-out saved us, then, one night's heavy labour. Let us tell our readers how this count-out occurred. The House had met that day at two, suspended business at seven, and resumed at nine. Now, as the Cattle Market Bill was to come on then, we all naturally expected that before the clock struck the earnest and zealous supporters of that bill would be down in strength to keep the House. Not to make the House, readers, the House was made at two o'clock, and, though it had suspended business for two hours, it had not adjourned; the mace during those two hours lay upon the table, and the House was by a fiction sitting all that time. When, therefore, Mr. Speaker arrived at nine o'clock he was not obliged to count the members before he took the chair; he simply got into the chair, and, though there were not nearly forty members present—only six indeed—he would, if nobody had called his attention to the fact, have proceeded with the business. This parenthetically, well, the farmers' friends, the earnest supporters of this measure, were not there; neither were the Ministers down in force. The leader was present, and Lord Robert Montagu, who had charge of the bill; but no other Minister. Indeed, the very whips, whose duty it is, as our readers know, specially to make a House and keep a House, were absent. Fancy that, readers! Why, it really looked as if the Government and supporters of the bill wanted a count-out. If you were to see only some three or four hounds at a "meet," with no huntsman, no whipper-in, would you imagine that the master of the pack wished for a run? No, you would say; clearly the master don't want a run to-day; and would turn your horse's head, and canter home. And when we looked down upon this scene at nine o'clock, and saw only Disraeli and Lord Robert on the Treasury bench, and only three or four of the farmers' friends behind, and had ascertained that not one of the three whips was at work, we concluded that the Government and the advocates of the bill did not for some inscrutable reason, want a House; and to this hour we have not been able to banish this suspicion from our mind. But be this as it may, the Government professed to want a House.

HOW AYRTON MANAGED IT.

On the Liberal side there were some three or four members at nine o'clock, and amongst them Mr. Ayrton. He, as we all know, hates this bill—and naturally. He represents nearly a million of people. He believes that, if the bill had become law, it would have raised the price of meat in the metropolis 2d. a pound. When he entered the House he saw how matters stood. Delaying this bill even only one night must be dangerous, and perhaps fatal. He therefore felt that it would be quite justifiable to delay it by a count-out. There are but few members who have the courage to move a count; and still fewer who dare get up in their places and do it audibly and conspicuously, so as to be seen and known by the reporters in the gallery. The usual plan is to slide up to the Speaker's chair, and whisper into his ear the fact that there are not forty members present. But Mr. Ayrton stood up, and in audible tones said, "Mr. Speaker, there are not forty members here." And now, why does not Mr. Speaker at once order strangers to withdraw? When a man sidles up to him and whispers or mutters into his ear, he can if he chooses, and not unfrequently does, turn a deaf ear to the whisperer. But Mr. Ayrton spoke audibly and boldly, and yet Mr. Speaker refused to take the usual steps preliminary to counting the House. In reply, he muttered something which we could not catch, and still kept his seat. Whereupon, after a minute or so had elapsed, Mr. Ayrton again rose, and reiterated his motion for a count. And then Mr. Speaker slowly and hesitatingly rose, and said it was not usual to count before the House began business. Began business, Mr. Speaker! Surely the House began business when you took your seat. A minute or two elapsed; and then the clerk, after something had been said to him by the Speaker, seemed to be about to rise and call the order of the day, but was interrupted by Mr. Ayrton, who once more got up, and thus emphatically spoke—"Sir, I protest against beginning business with no House." Challenged thus decidedly, the Speaker could no longer resist. Strangers were ordered to withdraw. The sand-glass was turned, the bells were rung. Four of the opponents of the bill walked out of the House. When the sand had run through the two-minute glass, Mr. Speaker rose, and with his cocked hat counted the members slowly and deliberately. This was, though, only a formal operation. From the first there was no doubt of the result, as there often is when a count is called. There were only twenty members present—only half the requisite number, and the House was adjourned. When the result was known in the outer lobby, there was quite a scene there. The strangers, agents for the bill and its partisans, and the agents against it, numbering altogether some score or two, were in a state of most fervid excitement, the former loudly and angrily denouncing this move as a discreditable trick, the latter laughing and rejoicing over it as successful and justifiable strategy. This excitement lasted for at least twenty minutes, and intensified as it went on; for, meanwhile, the Conservative members—the farmers' friends—were dribbling in, many of them unconscious of what had happened. These, as they entered, were met with shouts of laughter by the opponents of the bill, and with rueful faces and shaking of the head by its supporters. "We are sold!" said an active paid agent to a member for one of the eastern counties, as he entered the lobby. "Why, what's the matter?" "The House is counted out." "Heavens! what don't say so! Why, I have travelled a hundred miles to get here!" the farmers' friend exclaimed; and straightway—as if it were impossible to believe what he heard—he rushed into the House.

CRYING OVER SPILT MILK.

And what did the hon. member for Bullockshire see when he got into the House, for inside there was a scene? By this time, that is about ten minutes after the adjournment, there must have been nearly forty members, all Conservatives, inside. What they said as they stood or sat there we, as they spoke in conversational tones, cannot report. They seemed to be divided into two groups; the Ministers, most of whom had arrived, composing one group, standing near the table; the country gentlemen out of office formed another group, standing or sitting near the bar. Neither group seemed to be angry; they appeared to speak more in sorrow, or in mortification, than in anger. "What are they doing there?" said we to one of their number who came out. "Crying over spilt milk," was the reply; "and as I see no use in that, I shall go." As we looked down we wondered why these two groups did not merge into one; but, on reflection, we thought we saw a reason. The gentlemen at the bar, it seemed to us, conscious of blame, were rather shy of approaching the Prime Minister, as well they might be. We don't know whether he did reproach them afterwards, in manner following; but clearly he had a right to do so—"You have been earnestly urging me to push on this bill; you have sent me two round-robins begging me to prolong the Session that this bill may be passed; and yet you do

not think it worth while to come down to preserve the House. By your coldness and negligence you have sacrificed a night. How, then, shall I, in such case, ask her Majesty to prolong the Session?" We have said that we know not whether Disraeli did or did not make this charge against these gentlemen; but we have no doubt that the sorrowful group at the bar were quite aware that they were open to severe censure, and feared it. For some time this state of things lasted; but at length the two groups gravitated to each other, and ultimately, like two drops of water, they flowed into one. What the farmers' friends said to Disraeli and what he said to them, we know not; but this we know—they one and all ceased to cry over spilt milk, or, to use another striking figure, left off dancing round a dead dog; for scarcely had the two groups coalesced, when loud laughter was heard, whilst the faces of all lost in length and gained in breadth. Men, though, do say that the whips and the Government underlings, who failed in their duty that night, had to submit to a severe wiggling, which they certainly richly deserved.

ORDER! ORDER!

On Friday week, at the later sitting, the Cattle Market Bill was the order of the day. There was no fear this time of a count-out. At nine o'clock, when Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, the leader of the Conservative forces was in his place, flanked on each side by members of his staff and backed by a strong force of rank and file. Opposite these sat, in the front bench, the leader, *pro hac vice* for this occasion, of the Opposition, the Right Honourable Milner Gibson, old Anti-Corn-Law Leaguer, and late President of the Board of Trade; Mr. Goschen, and others, with a muster of forces behind, weaker in numbers than the enemy, but better armed, as we shall see; in better position, and more skilfully led. The bill is the first order of the day. But will it come on first? No. Mr. Jacob Bright is up, to move the regular Friday night's notice, "That the House at its rising do adjourn to Monday next." There is no necessity to move this, as the House intends to sit on Saturday. But the Liberals mean to defeat this bill, and, being weak in numbers, they must resort to strategy. This motion will consume time, and perhaps they may weary their opponents out. In a war like this no expedient must be neglected, no stone left unturned. Mr. Jacob Bright was met by a volley of groans and he had hardly disclosed his intention when Mr. Secretary Hardy leaped up, flushed and angry, to call Mr. Jacob Bright to order. Mr. Hardy is usually calm and good-humoured, but, like certain great and beautiful mountains, he is liable to volcanic explosions. "Is this in order, Mr. Speaker?" "Quite in order," was Mr. Speaker's curt reply, and Mr. Secretary Hardy had to sit down, repress his anger, and consume his own smoke as best he could. Mr. Milner Gibson seconded the motion without remark; and next rose the leader of the House to remove, if possible, this obstacle out of the way. He patted Mr. Jacob Bright, and remonstrated with Mr. Gibson, and sat down amidst a storm of cheers from his side. But all was in vain. Mr. Gibson smiled serenely at the remonstrance, and Mr. Jacob Bright was to all flattery impervious.

MILNER GIBSON AND THE HOME SECRETARY.

After Disraeli, Mr. Gibson rose to defend his conduct. As he lifted himself up there came from the bucolic gentlemen opposite a roar of groans, which was like the bellowing of a herd of their own bullocks, and for a considerable time the roars at intervals continued. But this row affected not Mr. Gibson. In the old corn-law fights, he had seen many such rows, and regarded this storm no more than a Highland shepherd wrapped close in his plaid regards the pelting of the rain. Mr. Gibson has wonderful pluck, and a capital voice, high pitched, clear, and of great power, and every word that he said rang above the storm as clear and distinct as a bell. What he said of course we cannot report, but, whatever it was, it awfully riled the gentlemen opposite. And when, in defence of the count-out on the previous night, and, in allusion to the country gentlemen so conspicuously absent on that occasion, he shouted out with all the power of his lungs, "Where were the farmers' friends?" there came such a blast of groans and howls that a less hardy warrior in political battle would have been blown back into his seat. But Mr. Gibson quailed not; on the contrary, he seemed to like it, and appeared to be in his element, like the gulls and the petrels who dance on the storm-tossed waves. When Mr. Gibson sat down, our good Home Secretary had again got explosive—so angry, indeed, that he blurted out an unparliamentary expression. He called the conduct which Mr. Speaker had decided to be in order "factious." Whereupon Mr. Gibson, amidst a tempest of discordant cries (which our readers must imagine, for we cannot describe them), rose and thus spoke:—"Sir, I deny that a Minister of the Crown has a right to say that any member of this House is guilty of factious opposition. I ask that the words may be taken down." The scene at this juncture was very exciting. Besides the noise there were three or four members on their legs at once, all passionately saying something, though what they said no mortal there could hear. Mr. Speaker now again got up, and almost in a moment there was a calm. Mr. Speaker proceeded elaborately to justify the motion for the adjournment; but the immediate question, whether the word "factious" was Parliamentary, he forgot. Mr. Gibson had then again to call attention to the word "factious." Whereupon Mr. Speaker rose once more, and decided that the expression was "too strong." Mr. Hardy, now calmed down to his normal state, bowed to the decision of the Chair, and finished his speech. The current of the evening's procedure, thus tossed into turbulence, now subsided into quietude, and flowed on peacefully for a couple of hours, and then the House got into Committee upon the bill.

THE BILL WITHDRAWN.

The friends of the measure have asserted that it was defeated by the pertinacious and unscrupulous opposition which met it at every stage. But this is not true. The opposition was pertinacious—and, if you like, unscrupulous; but ultimately the bill was defeated by argument, and the exposure of its faults and absurdities. So glaring were these when the veil came to be lifted up, that its most ardent supporters were obliged to confess that it ought not to be passed. The last battle on this bill was exceedingly interesting, and if we had space we would describe it at length; but space we have not, and therefore must be very succinct. Fancy, then, readers, an old wooden ship of war anchored in a bay, manned by a most incompetent crew, and attacked by a score or so of iron-clad gun-boats, cleverly handled, and each carrying a formidable Armstrong, and you may have a notion of what we saw on that night. This bill was unsound and indefensible. Its defenders were wretchedly weak, whilst its opponents were the ablest, the cleverest men in the House, and in a few hours they so riddled with shot and shell the helpless craft that at last, after due consideration in a private room, its friends, official and unofficial, decided to haul down their colours and consent to its destruction. It is curious that Disraeli, in this debate, never said a word. It is rumoured that he never liked the bill, and that he quietly chuckled to see its defenders getting into such a mess.

THE ENTIRE RESTORATION OF THE CATHEDRAL OF NOTRE DAME, Paris, commenced twenty years ago, is at this moment being terminated by fixing a railing all round it to protect the structure throughout its extent. This is the last operation of the whole works undertaken to give this magnificent building the physiognomy which it possessed when first erected, in 1447.

NEW PEERS.—On Monday it was rumoured in the Courts of Chancery that Lord Justice Sir W. Page Wood will be raised to the Peerage, and probably Lord Justice Selwyn likewise, in order that the appellate jurisdiction of the House of Lords may be strengthened. The House of Lords Brougham—and was not long since deprived by death of the services of Lord Wenleydale and Lord Kingsdown. Lord St. Leonards, on account of his great age, cannot attend the appeals, and Lord Colonsay confines his attention almost exclusively to Scotch law; so that the business falls heavily upon the other Law Lords. In other quarters Sir Fitzroy Kelly Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, is spoken of for a Peerage.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 24.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House during its sitting of three hours advanced a large number of bills a stage, the time being chiefly occupied with the discussion of the Electric Telegraphs Bill, which was read the second time; and the Public Schools Bill as amended, the Irish Registration Bill, the Expiring Laws Continuance Bill, and the Inland Revenue Bill were also read the second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ELECTION PETITIONS, ETC., BILL.

Mr. FAWCETT proposed to recommit this bill with the view of restoring his clause charging the returning officer's expenses to the local rates, which had been struck out, at the instance of the Solicitor-General, the previous day by a majority of 18. In doing so, the hon. member renewed his complaint of being unfairly treated by the Government, inasmuch as there had been a general impression, if not a clear understanding, that they would not ask the House to reverse the decision at which it arrived when it ordered the clause to be inserted.

Mr. DISRAELI, speaking in defence of Ministers, contended that on ascertaining, as they had done, that the clause was unwelcome, they were bound to ask that it should be rescinded. The proposal of Mr. Fawcett, in fact, was to a great extent crude, and open to many technical objections, and any attempt to reopen the question might endanger the passing of a valuable measure.

After some further discussion the House divided, and the motion to recommit the bill having been negatived by a majority of eleven, the third reading was agreed to, and the bill was passed.

RAILWAYS REGULATION BILL.

Considerable progress was made in Committee with the Railways Regulation Bill, which had come down from the Lords; but the time for suspending the sitting arrived before all the clauses were agreed to. A series of new clauses, emanating from the late railway conference at Manchester, was proposed by Mr. BAZLEY, but negatived without a division. A new clause was, however, added on the motion of Sir C. O'LOUGHLIN, subjecting railway companies to penalties not exceeding £500 for knowingly letting or otherwise providing trains for prize-fights.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.—AN EXPLOSION.

An exciting scene took place at the evening sitting of the House. Mr. Jacob Bright moved that the House at its rising do adjourn till Monday. Mr. Milner Gibson seconded the motion. At this Mr. Disraeli waxed indignant, contending that it was only at a later stage that the House could decide whether it should hold a Saturday sitting or adjourn till Monday. Mr. M. Gibson contended that, as no motions could now be made on going into Committee of Supply (because the labours of that Committee were closed), members were entitled to bring forward their motions in accordance with the old custom of moving the adjournment of the House. Mr. G. Hardy then appeared on the scene, and used expressions which the Speaker pronounced to be out of order. Major Parker, who followed, was still more unparliamentary and quite incoherent. Mr. Blake and Sir C. O'Loghlen withdrew the motions which stood in their names, and Mr. Neate then proceeded to expatiate on the Bristol Elections Bill. Of course, the object was to stave off the obnoxious Foreign Cattle Markets Bill; but, after more than one stormy scene, the House went into Committee on the bill.

SATURDAY, JULY 25.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FOREIGN CATTLE MARKET BILL.

There was a sitting of the House last Saturday. At the close of a long conversation the order for Committee on the objectionable Foreign Cattle Market Bill was discharged, on the motion of Lord R. MONTAGU, and the bill was withdrawn.

RAILWAYS REGULATION BILL.

In the course of the discussion on the Regulations of Railways Bill, Mr. H. B. SHERIDAN proposed the following clause:—"And all railway companies shall from and after the passing of this Act, in every passenger train where there are more carriages than one of each class, provide smoking-compartments for each class of passengers." On a division there appeared, for the clause, 38; against it, 16; so that the clause for the accommodation of smokers was carried. A few words, however, were subsequently added, which enables the Board of Trade to exempt a company from the observance of the clause when they think it expedient to do so. The bill was read the third time and passed.

MONDAY, JULY 27.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Lord NAPIER OF MAGDALA took the oath and his seat. On the motion of Lord MALMESBURY, the Election Petitions and Corrupt Practices at Elections Bill was read the second time. Lord Malmesbury, Earl Russell, the Lord Chancellor, and Lord Romilly paid a high tribute to the character and services of the late Lord Cranworth. The Electric Telegraphs Bill passed through Committee. Lord HOUGHTON having asked whether the Government intended to recognise in any special manner the sufferings endured by the British Envoys in Abyssinia, Lord MALMESBURY stated that Mr. Rassam was engaged in preparing a report on the subject, and that, on the completion of that document, the Government would favourably consider the claims of these gentlemen.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE TORNADO.

Lord STANLEY, replying to Mr. Candlish, stated that information had reached him to the effect that the prize court of Cadix had condemned the British ship Tornado. He had also heard that the Council of State had confirmed this decision, but he could not yet say, officially, whether that was true or not.

THE LATE LORD BROUGHAM.

Mr. ROEBUCK, in a brief but eulogistic speech, drew attention to the great public services of the late Lord Brougham, and inquired whether it was intended by the Government to propose the erection of a monument to his memory in Westminster Abbey.

Mr. DISRAELI concurred with Mr. Roebuck that some public recognition of the career and character of Lord Brougham, such as the question indicated, was desirable; but, in considering the manner in which most fitly to accomplish that object, he was painfully impressed with the failure of most of the efforts which had been made in other cases; and the Government were extremely anxious to avoid a similar result in this. A desire had been expressed by a deputation of eminent men who had waited upon him that a statue should be raised to Faraday; and the Government entirely concurred in it. The same difficulty, however, beset them there; and they were unable to bring it before the House, because they could not suggest a plan by which to carry it out. The subject, however, had not been thrown aside; and, as it had now been brought publicly under their notice by Mr. Roebuck, he promised that it should have their consideration; for he felt that they would be performing a duty of no mean character if they could propose some arrangement which would, satisfactorily to the taste and the feeling of the country, commemorate the form as well as the character and services of so eminent a man as the late Lord Brougham.

Mr. GLADSTONE also uttered a few words of panegyric on the memory of the late Lord, and added that he had no doubt he should be satisfied with whatever might be the conclusion of the Government.

OUR RELATIONS WITH MEXICO.

Mr. KINGLAKE having asked what were the causes which now impeded the recognition by the English Government of the Mexican Republic, Lord STANLEY replied that there was no doubt the relations between the two countries were not of a satisfactory character. We had no diplomatic intercourse with Mexico, and in consequence had no means of affording protection to British subjects and British interests there; but this state of things was neither directly nor indirectly owing to the English Government. The fact was, that the Mexican Government, acting, as they thought, very unwisely, chose to consider the recognition by this country of the Mexican empire an act of hostility to the republic, and on that ground they had broken off all diplomatic communication with us. It would scarcely be consistent with our own self-respect to ask them to reconsider their decision and admit us to a renewal of friendly intercourse; but whenever they showed a willingness to make up their differences with us, they would not find any difficulty in the way of reconciliation on our side.

THE INDIAN BUDGET.

Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE brought forward the Indian budget in a lucid and able speech. The receipts for the past year amounted to £48,258,000, the expenditure to £49,364,000, but the actual deficit was £700,000 less than had been anticipated. There had been an improvement on the one side of a million and a half, and an increased expenditure of £744,000. The gain to the revenue had been in license stamps, customs, and opium. The augmented expenditure would have entirely balanced the increased revenue if it had not been for a reduction under the head of public works, which Sir Stafford admitted was not a satisfactory state of things. The estimate for the current year 1868-9 was, for revenue, £48,588,000, and for expenditure £49,613,000, leaving a deficit of upwards of a million; but a sum amounting to more than three millions for public works was included in the prospective expenditure.

Mr. LAING was of opinion that considerable economy might be effected in the military expenditure of India; nevertheless, he thought our Government was, perhaps, the cheapest in the world. He remarked that in five years the income had increased six millions, a result mainly due to the bringing of waste lands into cultivation. Mr. Laing urged the vigorous prosecution of public works.

Mr. Grant Duff, Colonel Sykes, Mr. Bazley, and other gentlemen addressed the House. Subsequently, Sir Stafford withdrew the Government of India Act Amendment Bill.

TUESDAY, JULY 28.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

During a two-hours' sitting of the House a very fair amount of business was transacted. The Regulation of Railways Bill was forwarded a stage, and the Corrupt Practices Bill passed through Committee.

In reply to some observations from the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Duke of Marlborough admitted the evils of the baby-farming system, but held that it was a matter more for the vigilance of the police than for the interference of the Government.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House met at two o'clock. The questions were very few. Two—put by Mr. Cavendish Bentinck and Mr. McCullagh Torrens respectively—had reference to the restoration of some valuable State papers to the British Government by the library committee of Philadelphia, and to the services of Mr. Heyworth Dixon in obtaining those papers.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON was unable to give Mr. Bazley any information in the matter of Corporal Peake's disqualification for the Queen's prize, as it was not within the jurisdiction of the War Office. More satisfactory was the statement of the right hon. Baronet that the alleged occurrence of nine cases of sunstroke at Aldershot really amounted to three trivial cases.

The Public Schools Bill, as brought down from the Lords, was then considered. Sir S. NORTHGOTE moved that the amendments made by their Lordships should be disagreed with; and, after a brief discussion, this was carried by a majority of 28 to 18.

The Poor Relief Bill was read the third time and passed; and then the House resumed the consideration of Mr. R. Gurney's motion to grant £1600 out of the Consolidated Fund for the benefit of the Archdeacon of Middlesex, who had been appointed coadjutor Bishop of Jamaica. The proposal was rejected by the narrow majority of one—30 to 29.

A proposition by Mr. REARDEN for a Select Committee to inquire into the imprisonment of Mr. Train in Dublin fell to the ground for want of a second.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House sat an hour and a half, and during that time were occupied with business of the most routine character. First, the Commons' amendments to the Public Schools Bill were agreed to without much difficulty; and then their Lordships were called upon to give their concurrence also to the amendments of the Lower House in the case of the Poor Relief Bill, and a measure for regulating the salmon fisheries of Scotland. The Corrupt Practices Bill was amongst the measures read the third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated, in reply to Mr. McLaren, that the propriety of allowing the Post Office to carry an ounce of printed matter for a halfpenny was under consideration, and that a case had been stated for the opinion of a court of law in the matter of the prosecution of the Circular Delivery Company.

The retirement of certain full Colonels of the Royal Artillery, the grievances of the senior staff officers of pensioners, and the issue of an order by the General commanding the troops in Canada forbidding officers to preach to or to teach the men of their regiments, formed the bases of inquiries by Sir James Gaselee, Mr. Wyld, and Mr. Kinnaird. Sir John Pakington, in replying, stated that the case of the Artillery Colonels was under consideration; that the staff officers of pensioners had no reason to complain of their pay; but he would inquire whether any additional labour had lately been thrown upon them; and that Sir Charles Wyndham had issued an order to the officers of Canadian regiments to the effect that they were to abstain from preaching in churches.

The inaccurate state of the standard of weights and measures was brought forward by Mr. T. HUGHES, and a brief conversation followed, in which Mr. S. Cave, Mr. Serjeant Gaselee, and Colonel Sykes took part.

Mr. C. BENTINCK next moved for a copy of the proceedings in Chancery in the case of Mr. Leonard Edmunds; but the Attorney-General objected to the motion, and it was withdrawn.

The House adjourned to half-past one on Friday.

THURSDAY, JULY 30.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Duke of MARLBOROUGH moved that an humble address be presented to her Majesty for a return submitted to the Committee of Council by the National Society, showing by counties the number of ecclesiastical parishes in England and Wales, the number of scholars connected with the Church of England, and the number of scholars in the books, and a daily attendance in these schools during the year 1866. Agreed to.

Lord DENMAN inquired of her Majesty's Government if the Commissioners under the Courts of Justice Building Act had recommended any definite plan, and if the Lords of the Treasury had approved of any contract as to a Palace of Justice?

The LORD CHANCELLER stated that the Commissioners under the Courts of Justice Building Act had not yet submitted any definite plan to the Government, but a few days since a letter on the subject had been sent to the Treasury.

THE FOOTWAY ON THE NORTHERN EMBANKMENT of the Thames, from Westminster to the Temple, was formally opened to the public on Thursday.

ARTISANS' DWELLINGS BILL.—Mr. Torrens, M.P., thus explains the provisions of the Artisans' Dwellings Bill—a measure which has now become law:—"The duty of inspecting abodes unfit for human habitation is still laid upon the officer of health; and the independence of that officer is fortified by his being made irremovable without the consent of the Government. A competent surveyor is to be required to say whether the dwelling is capable of being made wholesome by any and by what repairs, or whether it must be pulled down and rebuilt. In either case the owner of the property is to have the option of doing the necessary work. If he declines, the vestry in the metropolis (or the corporation elsewhere) is empowered and directed to have the repairing or rebuilding properly done; and, in case of neglect or delay, appeal may be made by the ratepayers to the Secretary of State for an order compelling the local authority to do its duty. The money is to be obtained from the Public Works Loan Commissioners, at 4 per cent, as originally proposed in the bill as it left the Commons; but, instead of the compulsory purchase of the premises and its resale at the end of five years, the Lords have preferred to give us a compulsory mortgage until the loan from the Treasury shall be paid off."

CATTLE PLAGUE REGULATIONS.—A supplement to the London Gazette, published last Saturday, contains Orders in Council, directing that article 26 of the Consolidated Cattle Plague Order of August, 1867, shall, with respect to the metropolis, have effect as if the words "ten days" were therein substituted for "six days," and that the schedule to the Metropolitan Cattle Plague Order of 1867 shall have effect as if "eleven days" were therein substituted for "seven days." Also, that the word "animal" means exclusively an animal comprised in the definition of "cattle," and that the word "calf" means exclusively a calf not more than fourteen days old. Also, notwithstanding anything in the Metropolitan Cattle Plague Order of August, 1867, cattle may be moved alive out of the metropolis, subject to and in accordance with the proceedings of this order. Also, that cattle, the produce of Spain, Portugal, Normandy, and Brittany, may be landed at any port in Great Britain along the coast from the North Foreland westwards to the Land's End, and then northwards to the Mull of Cantyre, at places approved by the Commissioners of her Majesty's Customs, on the conditions mentioned in the order, the owners or charterers of the importing vessels to give sureties not exceeding £,000 for the observance of the conditions. The provisions of this order respecting cattle extend to sheep, goats, and swine brought in the same vessel with the cattle. The following further orders in Council are published in a supplement to the London Gazette of Tuesday:—"Notwithstanding anything in the metropolitan cattle plague order of August, 1867, or in any other order of the Privy Council, cattle brought to the metropolis by the Great Northern Railway may be moved alive within and out of the metropolis by the following route—that is to say, by the Great Northern Railway to its junction with the Metropolitan Railway, and thence as follows: either by the Metropolitan Railway to its junction with the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, and by the last-mentioned railway through Hernehill station out of the metropolis; or by the Metropolitan Railway to its junction with the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, and by the last-mentioned railway to Beckenham junction, and thence by the South-Eastern Railway out of the metropolis; or by the Metropolitan Railway to its junction with the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, and by the last-mentioned railway to its junction with the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, at or near Battersea, and thence by the last-mentioned railway out of the metropolis: on the following conditions, that is to say:—1. That cattle so moved shall not, while within the metropolis, be taken out of the wagon in which they are brought into the metropolis. 2. That if any cattle so moved, accidentally or otherwise, while within the metropolis, leave, or are taken out of the wagon in which they are so moved, they shall not be placed again in the same or any other wagon on any of the said railways within the metropolis, and shall not be moved alive out of the metropolis. If any cattle are moved or dealt with in contravention of any provision of this order, the owner thereof and the person directing or permitting such moving thereof, or dealing therewith, and the person in charge thereof, and the Great Northern Railway Company, shall each be deemed guilty of an offence against this order. The Metropolitan Board of Works shall cause this order to be published in a newspaper circulating in the metropolis; and the Commissioners of Police of the metropolis and the city of London respectively shall cause a copy thereof to be affixed in a conspicuous place at each police station. From and after the 31st day of July, 1868, sheep brought to Great Britain which come from Tonnung, Hunsim, or any port in the provinces of Schleswig or Holstein, or from Hamburg, or have been at any place within either of the said provinces, shall be subject to the provisions of the orders of the Privy Council respecting foreign cattle for the time being in force."

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THE MARRIAGE QUESTION.

THE cry, "Nobody's coming to marry me," was not raised this summer for the first time. The unwillingness of men to take wives has long been a subject of complaint with the opposite sex; for it must be admitted that men, as a rule, are supremely indifferent as to whether other men get married or not. It is only to women that it appears so wicked to remain single. The full explanation of this phenomenon might, no doubt, be given, if it were permitted to examine all things thoroughly in print. But, to take merely a material, economical view of the question, in the great majority of English marriages it is the husband who takes upon himself the whole burden of the wife's support; so that, in getting married, the woman ensures to herself the means of subsistence; whereas, all the husband ensures to himself is the certainty of having to maintain at least one person more than himself. There are few men in England, and scarcely any among the middle and lower classes, who regard marriage as a means of advancement. In France, on the other hand, and generally on the Continent, the girls of a family, in every class down to that of peasant-farmers, have portions; and in marrying them those who undertake to support them receive something in advance—perhaps something considerable—towards their support. This is a very prosaic view to take of so sublimely sentimental an institution as marriage; but it is one of the views in which it may fairly be regarded. It is obvious that the "portion" is an aid to matrimony. To take a disagreeable girl for wife would be a bad bargain whatever amount of money might go with her; but the most agreeable girl in the world would, before long, become disagreeable if the resources of the husband did not enable her to live according to the customs of what she might choose to consider her proper station. To the ordinary hard-working Englishman marriage is a very hazardous speculation—we mean now in a pecuniary sense alone—and, in the great majority of cases, the woman contributes nothing to the common fund. We do not say that she ought to do so—we will, at least, not be guilty of that meanness; all we say is that women with portions get married much more easily than women who are portionless, and that in preparing the domestic budget men have a right to consider whether it is their interest or their duty to lay upon themselves certain taxes for the sake of matrimony, as a Government has a right to consider whether it would be justified in increasing the national imposts for the sake of going to war.

If the correspondents of the *Daily Telegraph* would take the trouble to read the marriage service, they would find that one of the chief objects of matrimony is to keep up the population of the world; and the returns of the Registrar-General show that this object is fairly attained under existing arrangements. Where the earth is overcrowded, as in England, and in Europe generally, marriage is difficult. Where it is thinly inhabited, as in Australia and America, marriage is easy. To talk about cigars and billiards as checks to marriage is absurd on the part of the female writers on the subject. To condemn feminine fondness for dress and display as obstacles is equally absurd on the part of the men. In a healthy state of society, in a country where there is breathing-room for all, men may smoke and women may dress, and conjointly they may get married, and no one be the worse for it; but, on the contrary, everyone much better. In England this is not only not possible; it is not desirable. If all the youthful consumers of doubtful havannahs were suddenly to give up smoking, and put the money hitherto devoted to cigars into the savings-bank, we do not suppose the funds so accumulated would enable many of them to marry; but it would only be a disadvantage if it did. Still more sad would it be if the young women of England were, at the same time, to give up the notions—absurd in themselves—which so many of them entertain on the subject of dress, finery, social distinction, and so on. If all the youths of England would abstain from smoking, drinking, billiards, and pitch-and-toss; and if all the damsels of England would dress like

Quakeresses and dispense with furniture in their rooms, then, no doubt, thousands of young men of twenty would be able to marry thousands of young women of eighteen. What a disastrous state of things this would be! But our young men see no such visions; our young women dream no such dreams. The much-abused cigars help to serve a purpose of which the smokers themselves are, doubtless, for the most part unconscious; and the same may be said of the feminine taste for dress.

In ancient times it was considered a disgrace to a woman to remain single, and equally a disgrace, being married, to have no children. We know, too, that in Sparta bachelors were not only looked upon with contempt, but were actually forced to pay a special tax by reason of their bachelorhood. May the time never come when our old maids shall be deemed worthy of civic honours and crowns of glory shall be decreed to single men! But among certain classes—the struggling professional classes, above all—marriage already, like death in battle, is (as Byron observes) "less often sought than found." Whether as the world grows older its inhabitants grow wiser we cannot say. But they do not, in one quarter of the world, at least, care so much as they formerly did for getting married; and for this, as for all other things, there is a reason.

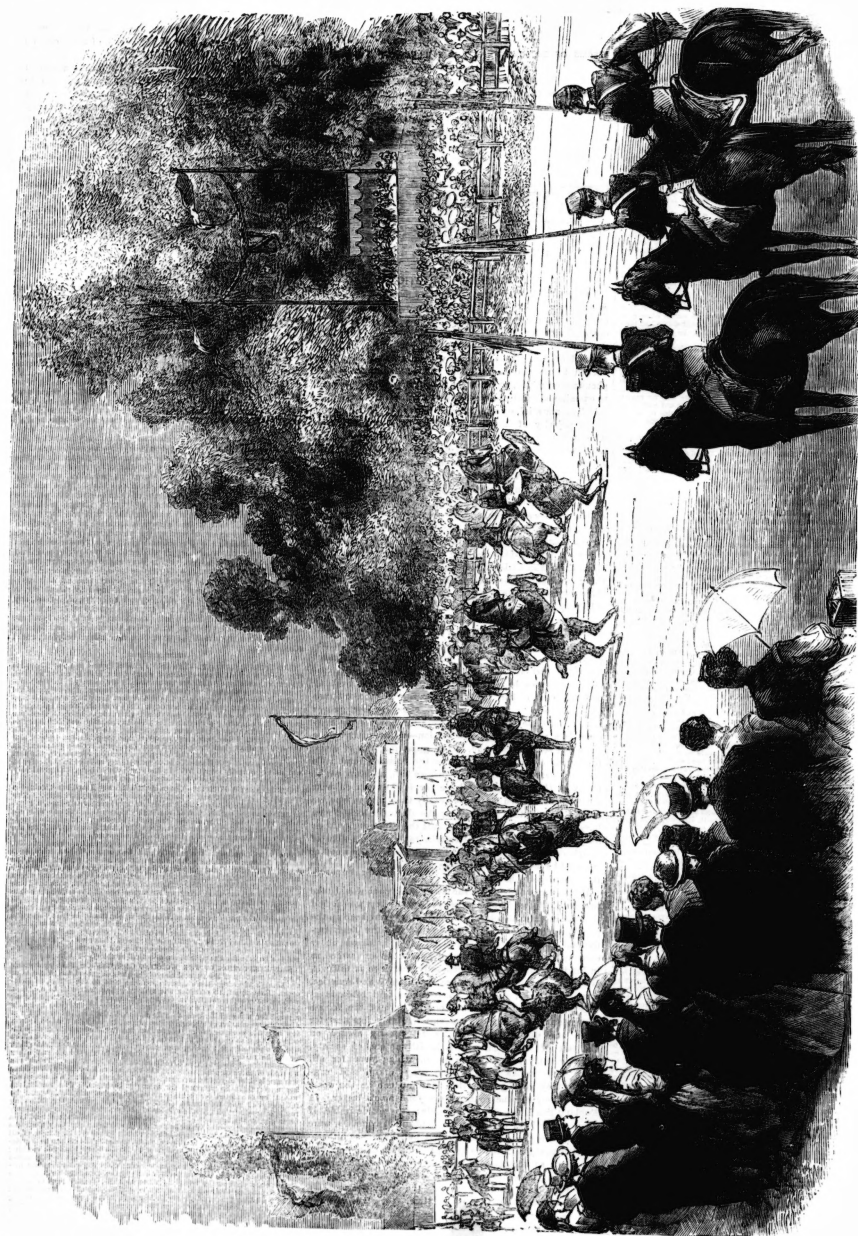
"THE VILLAGE DOCTOR."

THIS is just one of those pictures about which we have often said that they form the most general attraction of the galleries where they have a place. They have a simple story to tell—a tale within the homely comprehension of the ordinary visitor who, happily for himself, knows nothing of the jargon of high art; and they appeal at once to the popular sentiment and the popular humour. "The Village Doctor" is what the French call an *actualité* also; for those of us who lived, during their early days, in some remote country town may well remember the apothecary, and to our sorrow knew whereabouts he dwelt, his appearance being but a little different from many of the shopkeepers by whom he was surrounded, and a certain air of poverty tempering his sagacious looks with a sadness that seemed especially to belong to him. What a strange admixture of awe and familiarity influenced us as we sat in that bare apartment, where the drugs and mystic bottles stood on the dusty shelves, and held out our tongue for the profound inspection of the seer! He was a timid man and not much given to extravagant opinions; he spoke of diseases as though they were living beings and might overhear him and defy his skill. On the good old plan, not yet superseded by the discoveries of medical science, of leaving much to nature, his remedies were very simple. An old yellow jug contained the basis of his materia medica—Epsom salts and infusion of senna—and his practice as well as his principle was to "take things in time." His favourite apothegm was, in fact, that relating to "a stitch in time," and it was always associated in our youthful mind with the practice of sewing up wounds, an operation which we daily dreaded to see in practice in that room known sometimes as the surgery, but where no graver operation was performed than the application of diacolon, or the drawing of a refractory tooth. Poor old village doctor! the day has gone past when he could live easy but obscure on the twopenny-halfpenny fees of the agriculturists; but there may yet be some of his like remaining in those few districts which are still beyond railways, if, indeed, any such are to be found. At all events, when he is extinct altogether, this picture, which we have most of us seen at the Institute of Painters in Water Colours, will revive his memory and lead us to reflect what wondrous steps science has taken before it could abolish him.

THE FRENCH VINTAGE.—The *Saint Public* of Lyons says:—"The wine crop offers a splendid aspect almost everywhere, and is magnificent in Burgundy, the Maconnais, Revermont, and Lyons country. In the vineyards of Beaujolais the vine stocks literally bend beneath the weight of the grapes, which at present have attained almost their full size, and have begun to redden during the last few days. The owners are in high spirits, and if slight showers and great heat should alternate as hitherto there are grounds for expecting a very superior yield in quantity and in quality as compared with that of last year, and, besides, the vintage can be made a month earlier. We cannot deny, however, that the prolonged drought and the extraordinary heat have caused some damage in certain quarters. In sandy and gravelly soils many of the grapes have been roasted by the sun. The vineyards of the Mont-d'Or have particularly suffered in that respect, and rain is ardently longed for. In the south the oldium, comparatively inoffensive in these districts, has caused serious loss."

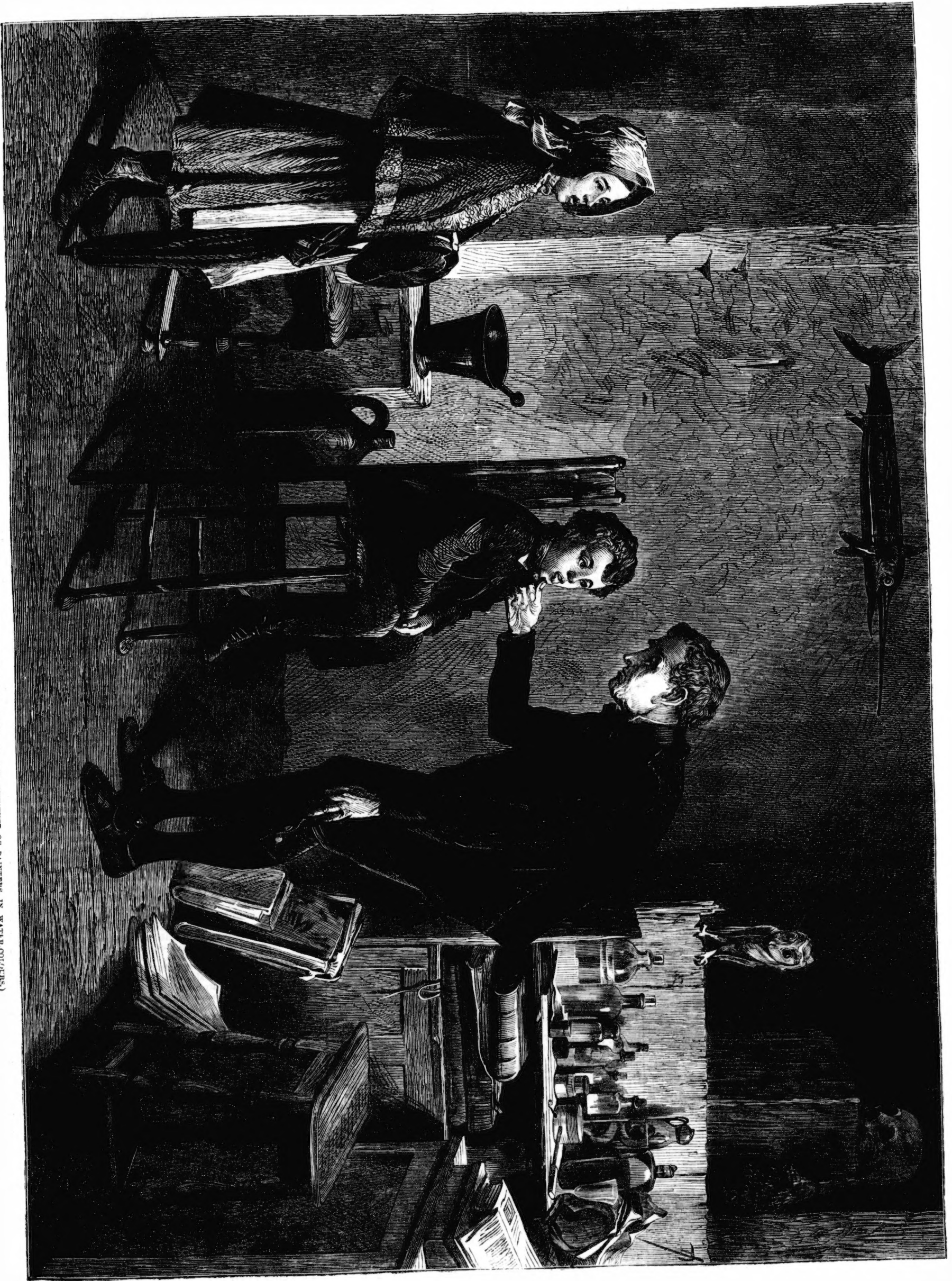
QUEEN ANNE'S BOUNTY.—Queen Anne's Bounty Board has attained a respectable longevity, and is not likely to live many years longer. The revelations made lately by a Parliamentary Committee respecting the management and constitution of the highly episcopal institution will probably prove fatal. The figures are really startling. Queen Anne surrendered certain Royal revenues called "First fruits and tenths," for the purpose of augmenting the incomes of the poorer clergy. The yearly appropriations to the object have for the last thirty years averaged £11,600. Impertinent grumblers have recently put the question, How much does it cost to dispense the fund? The answer is almost incredible. From the report of the Select Committee it appears that the expenses of the department are nearly half the amount distributed. There is a secretary with a stipend of £1350 a year. The salaries of the entire staff, with the house rent and casual expenses, bring up the annual cost of the establishment to hard upon £5000 a year. Besides that, a solicitor transacts the legal business of the Bounty; and his costs, with respect to loans and purchases, are paid by the parties concerned. On the whole, it may be safely assumed that, for every pound which the board dispenses in charity, it receives ten shillings for itself. A landowner would hardly consent to his steward's receiving a salary equal to half the profits of his estate. Queen Anne's Bounty is intensely respectable, is governed almost exclusively by Bishops, and is a superlative example of ecclesiastical economy.—*Telegraph*.

REPRESENTATION OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—On Tuesday evening a special meeting of the general committee and delegates from branches of the London Working Men's Association was held at the offices, in Bolt-court, Fleet-street, to consider the measures best adapted to secure a working-class representation in the new Parliament. Mr. George Potter occupied the chair. The chairman said he thought the time had now arrived for the working men to take action if they desired to obtain a direct representation of labour in Parliament, by the return of at least a few bona fide working men. The subject was surrounded with great difficulty, but not so great but that it might be surmounted by a united effort upon the part of the working men themselves. He thought that effort should be made, and an appeal at once made to the trades and other organisations of working men to take action upon the matter. There was upwards of three months yet before the elections could come on, and there was ample time to perfect an organisation by which at least a dozen working men might be returned for as many boroughs. Two resolutions would be submitted for consideration, which, if adopted, would be initiatory of the movement. Mr. Packer then moved the following resolution:—"1. That, in the opinion of this committee, it is absolutely necessary, in the interests of the industrial classes, that there should be a direct representation of labour in the new Parliament, and they therefore recommend that a united effort should be made by the working men of all sections, but especially by trades unionists, to secure the return to Parliament at the ensuing general election of at least a dozen bona fide working men." 2. "That, with the view of ascertaining how far the various trades councils, trades societies, and other working class organisations are disposed to co-operate in a movement for the purpose expressed in the above resolution, a circular be issued to those councils, societies, and organisations, requesting their opinion upon the subject, and of the propriety of holding a labour parliament early in August, for the purpose of selecting the twelve candidates and the twelve boroughs, and to devise the best means of raising a fund to defray the necessary expenses of the elections." Mr. Harris seconded the resolution. After some discussion respecting the details of the proposed movement, on which it was urged that if only six out of the twelve candidates were returned, a great object would be gained, the resolutions were adopted, and ordered to be sent at once to the various organisations named in the resolutions. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.



ANNUAL MANOEUVRE AT THE MILITARY SCHOOL OF ST. CYR. ROYALTYAL EXERCISES OF TROOPS OF THE UPPER SCHOOL.

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"THE VILLAGE DOCTOR."—(FROM THE PICTURE BY H. E. ROGERS, IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.)

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN has been pleased to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross upon Drummer Michael Wagner and Private James Bergin, of the 33rd Regiment, for their conspicuous gallantry in the assault of Magdala, on April 13 last.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES was "churched," on Monday, at the Chapel Royal, St. James's. The Bishop of London officiated. The Prince and Princess attended almost alone, and the service was one of extreme simplicity.

THE KING OF ITALY was present, on the evening of the 21st., at the first representation of a new drama given at the Politeama Theatre of Florence, on the subject of "Theodorus, King of Abyssinia."

PRINCE NAPOLEON returned to Paris on Tuesday morning, after his visit to the East.

LORD FEVERSHAM has been created Viscount Helmsley, of Helmsley, in the North Riding of the county of York, and Earl Faversham, of Ryedale, in the North Riding of the county of York.

THE RIGHT REV. DR. SUMNER, Bishop of Winchester, has had another alarming attack of paralysis, and the most serious apprehensions are entertained. His Lordship is at Eastbourne, surrounded by the members of his family.

MR. DU CANE, M.P. for North Essex and Junior Lord of the Admiralty, has accepted the government of Tasmania.

THE MARQUIS OF ABERCORN, who is about to be raised to a Dukedom, will take the title of Duke of Abercorn, in the Peerage of Ireland.

CONSUL CAMERON, who has played so important a part in the Abyssinian drama, has arrived in England. He has suffered greatly in his health from the privations and indignities to which he was subjected while a captive in King Theodore's hands.

MR. TEMPLE, Q.C., Attorney-General for the County Palatine, died at Lancaster, on Monday evening, of apoplexy.

MR. GEORGE CATTERMOLE, R.A., died a few days ago, in the sixty-eighth year of his age, at Clapham. Mr. Cattermole was elected R.A. in 1848.

THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT has resolved to establish a Civic Guard on the model of the French National Guard Mobile.

TWO BRIGANDS, named Orsini and Majorani, were shot, on Saturday last, at Velletri.

THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT has passed a bill according pensions to the widows and orphans of doctors who have died in attending choleraic patients.

THE OVERSEERS OF BOCKING, Essex, and of Frinsted, near Sittingbourne, Kent, have decided to place women on the register of electors.

MR. HORSMAN solicits re-election from the electors of Stroud. The right hon. gentleman's address is of a very explicit character. He is in favour of disestablishing the Irish Church, abolishing University tests, the ballot, and removing the Bishops from the House of Lords. He also advocates the creation of life peerages.

THE CHAPLAINCY OF HAMPTON COURT PALACE, which has become vacant by the resignation of the Rev. F. J. Ponsonby, M.A., who has been nominated by Earl Spencer to the vicarage of Brington, Northamptonshire, has been conferred upon the Rev. Philip Cameron Wodehouse, M.A., of Exeter College, Oxford, Curate of Teddington.

THE JOURNEYMAN BAKERS OF BERLIN, who number about 1900, have notified to their masters that they will cease working on the 30th if night employment is not abolished and the number of hands increased.

THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES have made a seizure at Hix, in the arrondissement of Prades (Pyrenees-Orientales) of a depot of arms and munitions of war belonging to the Spanish revolutionists.

M. PASDELOUP, whose Sunday concerts of ancient music have for many winters attracted numerous audiences, has been appointed director of the Paris Theatre Lyrique by the Municipal Council, which theatre, since the bankruptcy of Carvalho, has been without a manager.

FROM WILTSHIRE we learn that with another week of fine weather the harvest in that county will be nearly finished. The crops are reported as heavy, and it is expected that bread will be much cheaper.

THE MASTER AND FELLOWS of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, have established nine additional scholarships for the assistance of students whose pecuniary circumstances would otherwise be inadequate to meet the expense of a University education. These scholarships are in the sole appointment of the Master. Three will be awarded in October next to men about to commence residence.

AT THE ANNUAL FETES which have just taken place at Brussels a military drama was performed, in which the storming of Magdala by the British troops and the capture of Theodore were represented.

DR. PETERMAN has received news from the German expedition to the North Pole, dated June 20. The highest latitude reached by them was 75° 20', from which point Greenland was in sight. The crew were in good health and spirits, and the ship in good condition.

THREE LARGE FLEETS are at present anchored in Italian waters: Admiral Bontakoff, with the Russian vessels under his command, is at Brindisi; the English squadron is at Ancona; and the Italian at Cagliari in Sardinia.

STEAM CORN-CUTTING MACHINES have cut down enormous quantities of wheat in the south of England during the last week. If it had not been for these machines a great delay would have been occasioned through want of labourers.

A THICK CLOUD OF WHITE BUTTERFLIES descended three days back on Port Louis (Morbihan), from across the Bay of Glvres. They were so numerous that they resembled a heavy fall of snow, and for some minutes the town and fields were quite white. A strong wind at last blew them into the roadstead, where they were drowned.

A SHOCKING ACCIDENT is reported from Portsmouth. Lieutenant the Hon. Herbert G. Meade, R.N., who was the fourth son of the Earl of Clanwilliam, and a man named White, were engaged in preparing an experimental shell in a private house at Portsea, when the missile exploded. Both received such dreadful injuries that they shortly afterwards died.

A TRADESMAN OF THE CITY was, on Wednesday, fined 40s. at Guildhall for not effectually muzzling his dog. A strip of leather was round the animal's mouth, just to save appearances; but this did not prevent him biting people. He bit with some discrimination, though; for he seems to have attacked none but policemen. He seized one officer by the leg who brushed by him somewhat rapidly in the endeavour to capture a passer of base coin, and for this his master was made to pay.

A CURIOUS RAILWAY CASE has been before a jury of the county of Antrim, at the assizes. The plaintiff, a fireman in the employment of the Belfast and Northern Counties Railway, sustained severe injuries while driving an engine near Ballymena. The engine ran off the line and down an embankment; and the allegation was that the accident occurred from the bad condition of the permanent way. There was, by consent, a verdict for the plaintiff, who had laid damages at £1000, for £300 and costs.

SUNDAY LAST was an anniversary of mourning and tears for the Jews, as it corresponds with the ninth of the month of Ab, which saw the destruction of the two Temples of Jerusalem—one by Nebuchadnezzar, 3338 A.M., and the other by the Emperor Titus, 1800 years ago. The synagogues were hung with black, and a rigorous fast observed, commencing on the previous evening at sunset and continuing until the stars appeared the following night.

MESSRS. COLLS AND SONS, builders, of Camberwell, and 28, Moorgate-street, have received the following notice:—"To Messrs. Benjamin Colls and Sons.—Gentlemen,—We have to inform you that a resolution has been passed condemning the system of piecework which many employers are endeavouring to enforce, and which they well know is most obnoxious to trade unions, and hereby intimate that, after the usual period has elapsed, such employers deviating from the tenor of the foregoing must bear the consequences.—Yours respectfully, from the General Secret Committee."

ON Monday evening a meeting of unemployed working men was held in Hoxton Market-place, to call upon the Government to relieve the existing distress by utilising the waste lands of the country and providing free emigration to the colonies. About 1000 persons were present, the majority evidently belonging to the class for whose benefit the meeting was called. A resolution was adopted affirming that it is the duty of the State to provide work for the unemployed upon public works, especially upon the reclamation of the waste lands of the country, and another calling on the Government to provide free emigration for the unemployed. The proceedings were very orderly throughout.

THE GERMAN TRAVELLER ROHLFS has arrived at Bremen on his return from Abyssinia, where he filled the office of interpreter to the English expeditionary corps. After the taking of Magdala, he went alone to Lalibala, the holy city of the country, which has not been visited by any Europeans for more than three centuries. He found there nine Christian churches of the primitive Byzantine style of architecture, all monolithic—that is to say, each hewn out of one enormous block of stone, and richly ornamented. In afterwards passing by Axum he discovered that the last of the obelisks still standing in that place is in a state of almost complete ruin.

HER MAJESTY'S MINISTERS were entertained on Wednesday night by the Lord Mayor, at a banquet in the Mansion House. The Premier and the principal members of the Cabinet were present. Mr. Disraeli, who was very cordially received, spoke at some length, and concluded by expressing his confidence that the people of the United Kingdom would show themselves worthy of the extension of the suffrage effected by the new Reform Act, and that the new order of voters would decide such questions as the disestablishment of the Irish Church on truer principles than would "better educated and more refined" individuals.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

If the Marquis of Bute had not, contrary to all expectations and reckonings, come into the world, Colonel Stuart, member for Cardiff, would have inherited the peerage and the estates. The old Marquis, when he married his second wife, never expected issue; and his brother, Lord James Stuart, and the latter's son, the Colonel, confidently expected that the peerage and the estates would descend to their line. But in 1847 this young chap popped into the world and disappointed their hopes and marred their brilliant prospects. Well, it was no fault of the present Marquis that he thus obtruded between the Colonel and a peerage; but surely he ought not, under all the circumstances, to interfere, as he is about to do, to deprive his cousin of the honour of a seat in Parliament for Cardiff. The Marquis is a Tory. Cardiff, almost all of it, belongs to the Marquis, and it is but natural that the Marquis should wish to have Cardiff represented by a member of Tory principles; but the Colonel is the Marquis's cousin; and, as I have said, considering all the circumstances, he ought not to interfere. At first he did seem to be inclined to stand aside, and not meddle with the matter; but now it seems Mr. Giffard, Q.C., a Conservative, is to have the Marquis's active support, and, if this should be given, no doubt the learned gentleman will be returned, unless, indeed, the electors should kick over the traces and rebel against the Marquis. Were Cardiff in Scotland this would be done; but the Welsh are a very submissive people, and follow their landlord, or are driven by him, to the poll as submissively as the Welsh sheep follow their shepherd. Sir James Fergusson is the noble Marquis's guardian, and it is probable that the hon. Baronet advises his ward to take this course. If this be so, let Colonel Stuart retaliate by standing for Ayrshire, which Sir James represents. True, the Marquis has property there; but the Ayrshire men are bold Scotch, not submissive, sheeplike Welsh. Moreover, the Liberals are strong there. In 1859, when Lord James Stuart, the Colonel's father, died, Sir James was returned; but he only got a majority of 48 votes out of a constituency of over 4000 voters. This was no brilliant victory, and I suspect that at the next election the new voters would turn the balance in favour of the Colonel, if they could, as they might, be made to understand the Colonel's position.

John Clare has, I am told, not appeared in the lobby of the House of Commons once this Session. And who, pray, is John Clare? you will ask. Well, John Clare is a Liverpool man. For many years he has had a grievance against the Government, and for many years he has haunted the lobby to induce members to take his grievance in hand, and get it redressed. His grievance was that the Admiralty had made use of some patented discovery of his, and refused to pay him for it. What the discovery was I know not, nor does it much matter. John Clare considered that he was an ill-used man, and for a long time he was in the habit of haunting the lobby and pouring his sorrows into the members' ears, very much to their annoyance and disgust. But suddenly John disappeared; and why? Well, I understand that this was not an imaginary grievance, but a substantial wrong, and that, after infinite worrying, John has got his grievance acknowledged, and squared. But be sure that the officials did not do justice to John because they disliked to do injustice, but because of his impotency. Governments never voluntarily concede justice in such cases as this. If you have a case against a department, be your case never so just and clear, unless you have both pluck and pertinacity to worry, and even bully, the officials for years, you may dismiss all hope of redress. John Clare held on like a bulldog, and he succeeded. I understand, too, that Mr. Feather has been squared. He was plaintiff in the action of Feather against the Queen, for an infringement of a patent. His claim was allowed by default, but was barred by the plea of the Royal prerogative, or right of the Crown to use any patent. Mr. Feather, it is said, after infinite trouble, got £10,000.

The Church of England must really be in bad case, and Mr. Disraeli must be sadly in lack of something to patronise; for the friends of the Church have taken to publishing songs in her praise, and the Premier to accepting the dedication thereof. And oh! such songs! Here is one I have just come across, entitled "Our dear old Church of England," written by J. E. Carpenter, composed by J. L. Hatton, dedicated to the Right Hon. Benjamin Disraeli, and published by Robert Cocks and Co. I am no musician, so I cannot pretend to judge of Mr. Hatton's melody; but the verses are simply execrable. Here is a specimen:—

Our dear old Church of England!
'Tis there we'll serve the Lord;
'Twas there our fathers worshipped,
And magnified His Word;
Our heritage they left it,
It's strength we'll not impair;
Nor yield the prize to others
Entrusted to our care.
Then may no rude hands sever
The link that comes between
Our dear old Church of England,
The Altar and the Queen!

There! has not the Church found a worthy laureate in Mr. Carpenter? Let any critic extract sense out of that chorus—if he can. Another stanza teaches English history thus:—

Our dear old Church of England!
Shall we forget how she
Of old was bound and fetter'd,
Till Luther set her free?

I did not know before that Luther had anything directly to do with setting free the Church of England. Why could not Mr. Carpenter have been decently accurate, and put in Ridley or Cranmer, or even Henry (as "Bluff Hal," say), for Luther? Their names would have fitted his rhymes quite as well, and had some meaning. The House of Commons occasionally indicates musical proclivities, so far, at least, as to call upon Mr. Whalley for a song. I would suggest that the new House, on its opening day, should change their entertainer, and get Mr. Disraeli to sing "Our dear old Church of England," and that the whole assembly should join in the chorus. The effect would undoubtedly be striking, especially if the right rev. the bench of Bishops could be induced to join in the performance, and sing in "professional" costume.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

As I have twice, at least, said that an effort was demanded on the part of the *British Quarterly*, it is my duty, as well as my pleasure, to say that, in the current number of that review, the effort has been made. This time, the *B. Q.* is thoroughly good. The article on the writings of Mr. J. S. Mill is moderately expressed, and yet effective. As far as its metaphysical criticism is concerned, I agree with it, almost without exception. Yet not wholly. For the famous passage (in the book on Sir W. Hamilton) which was applauded on one side as heroic, and on the other as impious, was lyric, and lyric only. It is nonsense to quarrel with the logic of an emotional *spurt*. Again, I think the criticisms of the essay "On Liberty" are mistaken. No doubt the objections raised may be pressed. But has the *B. Q.* reviewer considered this question—Is there any scheme of practice against which some objection of a similar or converse kind could not also be pressed? By his first principle, the greatest happiness of the greatest number, Mr. Mill renounces statics; the argument is dynamical. Now you may choose sides. You may say Carlyle, or you may say Mill; and, in choosing, you decide the question of principle. But questions of detail may be pressed against each side alike. The point is, what principle is it to which we must seek constantly to approximate—that of giving to the individual the greatest possible amount of liberty, or that of giving him the least? On this subject Mr. Mill is unanswered and unanswerable. The article on "The Old London Dissenters" is one of the most entertaining of the whole year's fugitive literature—and, if I should be indebted to it on some future occasion, it will not be without acknowledgment. On the whole, the *British Quarterly* is an admirable number.

I am sure, Sir, you will have noticed the extreme rashness of nearly all the disputants in that Milton discussion, which still goes on. Mr. Morley, right or wrong in the main, has been the most moderate and cautious in matters of detail. If people would just think twice before writing once they would make less splash, and not get into print quite so often: which might vex their vanity but, on the other hand, they would be spared the mortification of seeing themselves so often contradicted on obvious evidence, which they themselves ought to have thought of.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

There is no existing dramatic author imbued with a keener sense of the ridiculous than Mr. H. J. Byron, and the shafts of his good-humoured satire have never been more successfully aimed than at the anomalies and conventionalities of the minor romantic or sensational drama. His burlesques are charged with capital parodies on favourite melodramatic situations and conventional melodramatic dialogue; and the fun of a very amusing series of "Sensation Dramas for the Back Drawing-room," written by him and published by Mr. Lacy, turns almost exclusively on a reckless use of the distorted intensity of conventional Surrey melodrama. With these facts before me, it is difficult to understand how Mr. Byron could have brought himself to construct the very commonplace melodrama which is now being played at the New Queen's under his name, and still more is it difficult to understand how he came to write down deliberately the amazing nonsense that he has put into the mouths of his characters. Mr. Byron must know that his reputation as a dramatic author of standing cannot but suffer by the production of such a piece in London. It is true that the piece is loudly applauded; but who applaud? From a manager's point of view applause is applause, whether it comes from the gallery or from the stalls. One man's applause is as good as another's, just as one man's money is as good as another's. But a dramatic author should surely take a higher view. He stands forth to the audience as the man who is responsible for the intellectual worth or worthlessness of the piece; and if the piece is a failure on account of its worthlessness, there is a disposition among the fat-headed British Public to sympathise with the manager and to look upon him as the guileless victim of a designing and unscrupulous playwright. I write under a feeling of disappointment, for I know Mr. Byron to be a man of remarkable talent (notwithstanding that his name is principally associated with burlesques), and I know that Mr. Byron, who must be keenly alive to the overdrawn absurdities of the piece, is sinning wilfully and of malice aforethought in placing this piece deliberately before the public. It is unnecessary for me to enter into any detailed account of the plot. With the exception of a really clever and delicately conceived situation at the end of the first act, the piece is a jumble of threadbare Surrey effects. We have a respected millionaire who has forged a bill in early youth; the low-born scoundrel who, alone of all men, knows of the forgery and levies black mail on the strength of his knowledge; the villain who is for marrying heiresses at any cost; the lovely farmer's daughter in perpetual distress; the serio-comic servant of the usual buffoonery-cum-rugged-paths order; a supposed murder; the wrong man charged; an escape from prison; a steam-boat pier, and, oh! such a steam-boat! and a final turn up of all the characters in Australia, with a death-bed confession as to the identity of the real culprit. The piece is, on the whole, well played. Mr. Emery, as the low-born scoundrel, revealing occasional glimpses of a better nature than one would at first sight be disposed to credit him with, is capably fitted, and, of course, does full justice to the part, but it affords little opportunity for high-class acting. Mr. Irving, as the "gentlemanly" villain, is capably dressed, and plays the part with remarkable care. He is probably the best representative of thoroughly bad young men that the London stage possesses. Miss Moore is a charming "Lancashire Lass;" but she has few opportunities of showing how excellent an actress she is. Mr. Wyndham is a gallant young mechanic, and plays the part with tact and judgment. Mr. Brough has a bad part, but plays it well. The same remark will apply to the parts played by Messrs. Stephens, Montgomery, Clayton, and Howard, and Miss Hodson. The scenery is showy, but the painting is not of a very high order. One scene—the pier at Egremont—is capably arranged; but it is for his carpentry rather than his skill as a scenic artist that Mr. Johnson deserves compliment. As for the music—well, it is a melodrama, and so a strain of twiddling fiddling runs right through the piece. How we shall be laughed at, a century hence, for our absurd adherence to this ridiculous conventionality!

THE OPENING OF THE TANK SYSTEM OF DRAINAGE AT HASTINGS

On Monday afternoon a new and thoroughly-efficient system of drainage was opened at Hastings. Twelve years since this town was drained at a cost of £16,000, on a system adapted to the natural levels, and the sewage flowed into the sea from several outlets. At all times of tide these outlets discharged, causing much offence, and the water wherein visitors bathed became exceedingly foul. At the upper portion of the town fever appeared, but the lower part was free from epidemic. The reason assigned for this was, that the noxious gases naturally escaped at the highest part of the borough, and hence the appearance of fever in the upper levels of the town. The authorities adopted the open system, and ventilated the sewers by means of charcoal boxes. To a certain extent this improvement had the desired effect, and the town became more healthy; yet the open system was a nuisance, and the constant discharge of filth into the sea at the height of the bathing season was a matter of constant complaint. After much consideration to amend this state of things, Mr. Andrews, the surveyor of the local board of health, proposed a plan which was adopted; and the first fruits were witnessed on Monday. By this system the old drains are all intercepted; and, instead of running down each watershed and discharging at the natural outlet, the main sewer takes, with an average fall of 5 ft. 6 in. per mile, all discharge eastward, to a tank holding 1,500,000 gallons, or the maximum accumulation during twenty-four hours. The sewage is stowed in the tank until low water, and then discharged, the action of the tide taking it eastward, and thus away from the town. The whole of the sewage of this watering-place is thus got rid of in about an hour, at intervals of little more than twelve hours. The discharge from the tank is through about half a mile of 4-ft. iron culverts, with a fall of 10 ft. per mile. The cost of the system is about £30,000, which sum will be repaid by the inhabitants by easy instalments. On the top of the tank, on circular brickwork, are charcoal-boxes, through which the purified air passes. On Monday the pipe whence the drainage escapes into the sea was officially opened, and the sewage accumulated in the tank allowed to escape into the sea about a quarter of a mile to the eastward of the great tank. The first effect was a rush of water, like a fountain, into the air, caused by atmospheric pressure. The sewage could be seen rushing into the clear water and then passing rapidly to the eastward with the tide, completely away from the town. The experiment was entirely successful, and there is no doubt that Hastings is completely drained and the water in the immediate vicinity untainted. Mr. Howell, the contractor, has carried this work out in a most perfect and complete manner. The adjoining township of St. Leonards has also carried out works of a like character, with one material difference. The discharge in this case is to the westward, the action of the tide being in that direction at high water. The completion of these undertakings gives a clear frontage of between three and four miles; and, in lieu of some eight or ten open culverts discharging offensive matters in that length, there is now clean bathing and pure sea. An experiment is about being made to extract the aqueous parts from the solid matter, intercepting the ammonia from the liquid. Mr. Rock, the inventor, desires to purify the drainage and to bake the solid parts into powder, to be used for manure.

DEATH OF LORD CRANWORTH.

EX-LORD CHANCELLOR CRANWORTH died on Sunday, at his seat at Holwood, the former residence of Pitt, after an illness of only three days' duration.

Robert Monsey Rolfe, Baron Cranworth of Cranworth, in the county of Norfolk, the elder and only surviving son of the late Rev. Edmund Rolfe, was born Dec. 18, 1790. His father, like his uncle, grandfather, and great-grandfather, was a plain country clergyman, holding the livings of Cockley Clay and of Cranworth, near Snipdham; and it was at the rectory-house of the last-named parish that the late Lord Chancellor was born and from which he selected his title just sixty years afterwards. His mother was a Miss Alexander, and granddaughter of Dr. Monsey, the physician of Chelsea Hospital, whose surname was borne as a second baptismal name by the subject of this memoir.

Having received his early education at the grammar school of Bury St. Edmunds, which at that time enjoyed a very high local reputation, young Rolfe was transferred to Winchester College. In due course of time he exchanged Winchester for Cambridge. His undergraduate career, like that of his school days, was marked by satisfactory though not brilliant results; and it was probably with entire satisfaction to himself that, having taken his B.A. degree as seventeenth among the wranglers in 1812, he found himself elected to a Fellowship at Downing College, which offered him a provision while studying for one of the learned professions, and had the additional advantage, rarer then than in these days, of being tenable without the necessity of taking holy orders. Robert Rolfe now resolved to seek his fortune at the Bar, and therefore came to London and entered himself as a student of Lincoln's Inn. In 1816 he was "called," and the Equity Bar was his choice. Here his early progress was slow, but not slower, perhaps, than the first steps of John Scott, when he first put his foot on the ladder which ultimately led him to the Chancery and the Earldom of Eldon. A few years passed, and briefs, which at first were scarce, began to come in more frequently. He had good practical sense and a sound knowledge of the law—if not in its great and leading principles, at all events in its minutiae and technicalities. He had good connections among the solicitors; he had also the highest reputation for honour, integrity, and good faith, and, above all things, great faith in himself. Some years passed by, and, just as his legal reputation was beginning to consolidate itself, he had the satisfaction of being appointed to the Readership of Bury St. Edmunds, a town of which he more than once contested the representation in the Liberal interest against the strong and all-prevailing influence of the Marquis of Bristol. He obtained the honour of a silk gown from Lord Brougham in 1832; but it was not till the end of the same year that he was enabled to secure a seat in the House of Commons. In the December next after the passing of the first Reform Bill we find him elected for Penryn, where he helped to eject the Tory candidate, the late Mr. J. W. Freshfield; and he secured his re-election at the general election of December, 1834, and of July, 1837. He had not held a seat in the House two years when Sir John Campbell's promotion from Solicitor to Attorney General left the former post at the disposal of Lord Melbourne's Ministry. There were other Liberal barristers, in and out of Parliament, to some of whom it was generally thought that the post would have been offered in preference to Rolfe; but Lord Melbourne and his friends wished for a sound and safe man, a Liberal, but not a Radical, and, above all things, a man of high personal character and standing, both with the profession and the public. These conditions, they felt, were amply united in Mr. Rolfe, who, accordingly, in the summer of 1834 became Solicitor-General and received the honour of knighthood. His tenure of office, however, was brief, as Lord Melbourne resigned, after Lord Spencer's death, in the following October or November, which broke up the Whig party, in the old King's opinion, at least. The eclipse of the Liberals, however, was but temporary. Sir Robert Peel and the Duke of Wellington contrived, indeed, to form a Ministry; but they were beaten, on the Speakership, at the meeting of Parliament in 1835. After a three or four months' struggle against an adverse majority, they tendered their resignations; and Lord Melbourne's return to Downing-street was the signal for a restoration of Sir Robert Rolfe to his former post. This he held, quietly and conscientiously discharging its duties, until the close of the year 1839, when he accepted a Puise Judge as one of the Barons of the Exchequer.

As a Judge he gave great satisfaction. Honest, painstaking, conscientious, upright, and gifted with that quiet practical ability for the discharge of work which is often of greater value than the most brilliant talents, he certainly more than justified his appointment. The rest of the late ex-Chancellor's history is soon told. In 1850, when the Great Seal was placed in commission, it was intrusted to him conjointly with Lord Langdale and with Vice-Chancellor Sir Lancelot Shadwell, on whose death, a few weeks afterwards, he was nominated one of the Vice-Chancellors of the kingdom. This post he exchanged in the following year for that of one of the Justices of Appeal in Chancery, which he continued to hold until the Great Seal of the kingdom was intrusted to his hands by Lord Aberdeen on the formation of the Coalition Cabinet in December, 1852. He had already been sworn a member of the Privy Council on first becoming a Vice-Chancellor, and in the same year he was raised to the peerage which has now become extinct by his death.

As we have already given a short estimate of Lord Cranworth's legal career, it cannot be necessary to repeat our opinions in this column. It remains, therefore, only to add that Lord Cranworth held the Great Seal in 1865-6, in the interval between Lord Westbury's retirement and the return of the Earl of Derby to power in the latter year. If nothing else can be recorded of him, at all events it may be stated here that he was mainly, if not wholly, instrumental in effecting one legal change, which, it may be presumed, has been acceptable to the profession; we allude to the transfer of the sittings of the Equity Courts from Westminster to Lincoln's Inn.

Lord Cranworth married, when already pretty well advanced in age, a Miss Carr, of Hampstead, a lady whose death we had occasion to chronicle some five or six months ago. He felt her loss deeply at the time; he has not long survived her; and in a few days Lord Cranworth's remains will be placed by the side of hers in the little village churchyard which adjoins his seat of Holwood, near Bromley, in Kent.

DR. ROBERT SULLIVAN, late of the Irish National Board, who died some days ago, in Dublin, and whose property was the fruit of the sale of the schoolbooks which he compiled for the Commissioners, by his will has left £4000 to the Queen's Colleges for the endowment of Sullivan scholarships, and several thousand pounds to national schools at Holywood, near Belfast, his native place. Dr. Sullivan was a zealous advocate and an efficient administrator of the "mixed system" of education of Ireland.

RECREATION IN CHURCHYARDS.—On Tuesday evening a crowded meeting was held at St. John's Vestry Hall, Horselydown, to discuss the propriety of throwing open the parish churchyards as recreation grounds. The Rector, the Rev. T. H. Tarlton, explained that he had been stupidly misrepresented when it had been reported that he thought the churchyard a good place for old people to smoke their pipes in. What he desired to see was a place with pleasant walks, green turf, flower-beds and flowering shrubs, to afford grateful retirement occasionally from the noise and bustle of daily toil to hardworking folk—a place where children might be sent to breathe fresh air exempt from the dangers of the street traffic. He didn't smoke himself, but if others could enjoy themselves the better for it he was prepared to exercise the greatest charity and toleration in the matter. Professor Westwood, LL.D., of Oxford, warmly advocated the scheme, and promised his efforts to obtain bedding-out plants from Dr. Hooker, of Kew Gardens, for the churchyard. Mr. Chandler and Mr. Jones, who had each had children run over, supported the scheme; and then there came a discussion as to whether the Board of Works should be asked to keep the place in order under the Public Places Act, or whether it should be done by voluntary effort. Mr. Fielding promised a cartload of chrysanthemums and pompones; Mr. Hort proffered to keep and stock one flower-bed; Mr. See, two ornamental garden-chairs; the churchwardens, four more; and other gentlemen two more. It was resolved to open the churchyard as soon as possible, to gradually adorn it, without any desecration, to keep it for the express use an hour or so daily for the inmates of the workhouse at its side, and to appoint two custodians to prevent boisterous and unseemly behaviour.

Literature.

The Old Times and the New. London: Chapman and Hall. Here is a pleasant volume of gossip, written many years ago by a somewhat garrulous Scottish gentleman, with a view to describing things as they were and things as they are, during the period, say, from 1750 to 1825. It is professedly written from personal experience, and the personality and egotism of the author give that charm of truth which is so often just overdone by fictionists. As most people of any miscellaneous reading have already formed a notion of society as it was about the time when Burns was born, and may remember something of it at about the time when Byron died, it is not fair to expect much novelty from the after-dinner talker before us, "across the walnuts and the wine." But in one way he is novel and original indeed. As a rule, elderly gentlemen lament the decline of the good old days, and have a knack of beginning each paragraph with an indignant "when I was a young man, Sir;" but the author of "The Old Times and the New" has nothing of that kind in him. He prefers railways to stage-coaches, and Liberalism to Toryism; but he is, like all the rest of the world at present, decidedly in favour of classic claret, and against the comparatively modern and muzzy port. Good oval faces are preferable to double chins; but we may hope that the state of things may be remedied, before long, by steady libations of Greek and Hungarian wines. A point or two will describe the book for the reader. It is thoroughly Scotch all over, and might do duty as a national memorial; but it is not undue praise of Scot and Scotland, for all that. At a time when the country was sending forth crowds of well-educated and thinking men (not, of course, necessarily bound to be famous geniuses), the schoolmaster was a derided being, and his pay would hardly keep body and soul together. It is an admirable Scotticism to praise the law of primogeniture on the ground that it is such a fine thing for younger sons—they get all the big prizes at the law, at medicine, &c.; and in these days we may add that many of them run a happy risk of the gold-diggings. Amongst other recollections, the writer describes how Napoleon was sometimes called the "farmer's friend," the prices of produce having gone up so extraordinarily high. There is much here about drinking and smoking, and the use of tobacco in other ways. They are the stiffest accounts we have ever read; but there is no reason to doubt their correctness. Interesting are the accounts of the Scottish peers and great families of one or two generations back; but they would be useless at secondhand. However, there are plenty of anecdotes scattered about, and a few fair specimens will meet approval. The Earl of Buchan had nothing of the wit of his younger brother, Harry Erskine. One day, placing his head under the lock of the door, he said, "See, Harry, here is lock on the human understanding." "And a very poor edition, my Lord," was the fraternal reply. As a specimen of "free-and-easiness," there is a curious story of Dr. Kidd, whose church was always full, and who gave occasional lectures besides. On giving a lecture on the Book of Daniel, the doctor had gone on to the point of Belshazzar's vision, when the King hears a knock at the door. "Who's there?" says the King. "It's Daniel, O King," replied the prophet. "Then walk in, Mr. Daniel, I am very happy to see you. What will you have? Port or sherry?" "A tumbler, O King!" was the prompt reply—a choice which it was well known would have been the doctor's own! Apropos of early dinners and hard drinking, followed by hot suppers and still harder drinking, having quite disappeared, we are told that something like what Lord Hermand predicted of himself forty years ago might really have come to pass had his Lordship lived. Lord Hermand, it seems, mourning over the approaching degeneracy of the age forty years ago, said, "What shall we come to at last? I believe I shall be left alone on the face of the earth—drinking claret!" Our next and last anecdote exhibits Scottish maternity in a purely Roman light of stoicism and fortitude. When the mother of Sir David Baird was informed that her beloved son was taken prisoner and confined, chained to a common soldier, in the Black Hole at Calcutta, the grim old lady simply said, "God pity the man that's tied to our David!"

Mixed with much that cannot fail to be generally known, with much needless comparison and much sentimentalising, for which we have no kind of taste, there is plenty in this book to lure the reader on. Excepting some troublesome genealogical affairs, it is not too much to say that every page bears something worth reading.

Walks in the Black Country and its Green Border-land. By ELIHU BURRITT, M.A. London: Sampson Low and Co.

Twice before has Mr. Elihu Burritt given us very commendable books of information of all kinds on England; and, upon the whole, we are inclined to take what he gives in good part, and with a reasonable amount of gratitude, if not of admiration. He always seems honest and hearty—fond and proud of England, and of English people also. It is commonplace home-satire to make out that our countrymen know but little of their country; but yet there is much truth in it; and the present season is certain to find more Londoners (at all events) on Mont Blanc than on Snowdon. Hence travellers' books make interesting literature, and we learn to see ourselves as others see us. Sometimes, indeed, the traveller sees very much more than actually exists—such travellers as Texier and Assolant, for instance. But with the Americans it is not so, although Nathaniel Hawthorne did turn yellow here and there at English matters which existed solely in his own imagination. Moreover, Americans have this advantage, that they share our language, and may make certain of being read and criticised by English people—which, of course, may not happen to the ordinary French scribbler. American Consuls, it seems, are expected by their Government to tell "all they know" about the places to which they are accredited, and Mr. Burritt, finding the neighbourhood of Birmingham far too full of attractive matter for an ordinary official report, has put together his own observations and all that he has learned on the subject in a very readable and useful volume. A good part of the book contains a history of Birmingham, social and political; and in these pages will be found many passages new enough to great metropolitans. We presume that, as a rule, statistics may be taken as authentic; but the value of checking details, and of "keeping the weather-eye open" generally, is shown by certain muddles made concerning population previous to the passing of the Reform Bill. When Mr. Attwood was addressing the people of Birmingham, we read of "a waving sea of faces, with 100,000 eyes turned eagerly towards the speaker." But in the next page we find that "at that time the town numbered full 100,000 inhabitants;" and it is hard to believe that every man, woman, and child turned out to listen even to Mr. Attwood. Taking Captain Absolute's average about the "usual number of eyes," which may be assumed to be a pair to each person, that would at once reduce the audience to 50,000; but even then it is unlikely that one half the inhabitants would be able, even were they politically inclined, to strike work and go in for reform! Turning to matters more interesting, we like to read of Mr. John Taylor, who died aged sixty-four, leaving behind him £200,000, all coined out of metal buttons. He made other things, especially painted snuffboxes, and one of his workmen earned £3 10s. a week by painting the boxes at a charge of one farthing a piece. No justice could be done here to the various manufacturers. The papier-mâché works of Mr. Henry Clay must have been a good speculation once upon a time. He had a monopoly, and was able to make a profit of £3 8s. 2d. on a tray which sold for £5 8s. 9d.—which, by-the-way, was a curious price to fix upon. The glassworks of Messrs. Osler will have interest for all; and one fact about steel-pen making may possibly take the reader's breath away. Birmingham turns out over fourteen millions of steel pens a week! The peculiar work of the Messrs. Elkington, and others, and the manufactories of small-arms, will at once

suggest themselves to every person. Wolverhampton, Stourbridge, &c., follow in due course, together with some annals of rural brickmaking by women which are positively painful. Strange to say, nailmaking by both sexes of all ages seems a very pleasant and encouraging mode of life, at least, when compared with many others. Mr. Walter White has told us all about the Wrekin, and we cannot linger with Mr. Burritt in such pleasant places as Dudley Castle, the seat of Lord Dudley; Hagley Hall, the seat of Lord Lyttelton; Enville, Lord Stamford's place, &c. But here are the traveller's opinions on two most important subjects:—First of all are coal-mines. Mr. Burritt gravely says, "I have not the slightest doubt that every mother's son of these subterranean toilers would prefer, at the same price, to grub on his back or knees by lamp-light down in the coal seams, fifty fathoms under ground, rather than to plough, reap, or mow in the sunniest fields in England, with its sweet singing-birds piping to him from the hedge." Use may be second nature, but first nature must be very stupid if this be a fair specimen of it. The second point is that our farmers waste a vast amount of horse power through not understanding horses, harness, or the subject generally, directly or indirectly. No doubt, in the country, the farmer, like his landlord in town, might get much more out of his horses, and with half the trouble to the animals, by studying the philosophy of the thing. But horses are much worse off abroad, if Sir Francis Head may be trusted in the "Bubbles," or Heinrich Heine in the "Pictures of Travel." The latter says the horses are worked so heavily that "long ago, in some long-forgotten horse-paradise, their ancestors must have eaten forbidden oats." It will be understood that, making allowance for those mistakes which will happen, this is a very sensible and entertaining book.

Speeches of the Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G., upon Subjects having Relation Chiefly to the Claims and Interests of the Labouring Classes. With a Preface. London: Chapman and Hall.

This selection from Lord Shaftesbury's speeches may be looked upon as a review of the progress of a great part of social life in England for the last thirty years. The speeches have all had their criticism, and not always their praise; for at times the Earl excited much opposition; and now a general glance will suffice to remind readers of their value. The Earl has had the good fortune to see his aims accomplished. His arguments are not to be questionable legacies to another generation. Lord Shaftesbury may claim to have established much for which he has fought, and to have gained to his side many minds which were against him. His "thirty years' war" has been against social shames and iniquities ruinous to working men and working children. From the "Condition of Children in Factories," in the House of Commons, 1838, to "Agricultural Gangs," in the House of Lords, 1867, Lord Shaftesbury has been steadily occupied in improving the condition of the people, morally and physically. And even when, last year, in his memorable speech against Mr. Disraeli's Reform Bill, he said some very painful things against the working classes, he was able to show, not that he was against giving power to the people, but that the people wanted at least ten years of education before they could be properly fitted to exercise power. Surely some such M.P. as Robert Lowe, who has gradually qualified himself to serve a Government of any denomination, might take this matter of education to heart, and calm Lord Shaftesbury's fears and his own. One thing is certain, that irrespective of the suffrage, education should be forced on the people, our "flesh and blood," as far as is compatible with liberty of the subject. Lord Shaftesbury, who professes to know the people so well, might at least say how far they are prepared to go beyond the celebrated "three Rs." But that legislation, like much more, will have to wait for the new House.

THE HARVEST AND CORN MARKETS.

THE fluctuations of Mark-lane show the alternations in our prospects of food more surely than the rise and fall of the barometer indicate the chances of rain. During this season Mark-lane has been unusually agitated. Prices during May reached the maximum of some years past. A gradual rise through four years reached its culmination in that month, when the prospect of a beautiful season and glorious crops sent prices down considerably. But that was a distant view of the harvest, and even in Mark-lane distance sometimes leads enchantment to the view. As the time went on, and the farmers began to cry out for rain, and there were rumours of a deficient crop and of premature ripening in the drought and heat, the market recovered its tone, and prices began gradually to creep up again till they had nearly reached their former level. But all these variations arose from speculative opinions about the harvest. Mark-lane is always very ready to sympathise with the gloomy anticipations of the farmers, though now and then it gets a sudden panic when it finds the prospects to be better than it had speculated upon. But there is something better to judge by now than speculations. The corn is everywhere being carried, three weeks earlier than usual, in splendid condition, from the fields, and though the farmers are too busy, with their crops all ripened at once, to send much corn to the market, the new wheat has already made its appearance there, and has produced almost another panic. It is spoken of as magnificently ripened, as remarkably heavy—62lb. to 66lb. the bushel—hard, dry, and with but little bran; everything that the miller, the baker, and the housewife can desire. Nor can there be any reason to believe that any great deficiency in quantity accompanies this unusual quality. A sudden fall of from 4s. to 6s. a quarter in the week ending last Monday, following a gradual decline of some weeks, and reducing the price of wheat nearly 20s. from its highest point in the spring, has not resulted from a beautifully-ripened English wheat finding its way to Mark-lane. Such a fall tells of a sufficient if not of a plentiful harvest in England, and of good prospects elsewhere. We have just come through a period of deficient harvests, and the harvest of this year promises at least to be a long step onwards to a more fruitful period. Even in the United States, where a spring unusually cold and wet made the prospects of the harvest gloomy, a spell of glorious sunshine has changed everything, and they are looking for plentiful crops. Altogether, appearances are in favour of the consumer. We may not be entering on a period of low prices such as that of 1864 and 1865, but it is probable that bread will be a good deal cheaper during the next autumn and winter than it was during the last autumn and winter. Of course the long drought will tell against us. The pastures will take a long time to recover from their present position; and should the drought last as long as it did in 1826, we have two months yet to wait for the deluge which will eventually restore them. There will be a deficient supply of food for the cattle and sheep, and probably milk may be scarce and butter may be dear; and even meat, notwithstanding the defeat of the Cattle Market Bill, may get up in price; but the staff of life will at least be cheaper, and every housewife will have an opportunity of confirming from personal observation and practical experience that "drought never did breed dearth in England."

BEAL'S WHARF, a modern pile of buildings in Southwark, on the Thames, held on lease for forty-three years and a quarter, at the ground rent of £860 per annum, was sold by auction on Wednesday for £31,200. The area of the land is about 20,700 square feet.

ST. PAUL'S-CHURCHYARD.—We hear there is a project on foot for decorating the external area of St. Paul's-churchyard. At present we see a heap of gravestones here and there; some poor, scraggy turf struggling for existence; and some unsightly, mossgrown paving-stones. It is proposed to plant and cultivate the graveyard portions; to place a drinking-fountain instead of an exhausted, old-fashioned parish pump; to erect an architectural memorial where Paul's Cross once stood; and to ornament the western approach with statuary. A permanent committee has, we understand, been formed for carrying out the project, consisting of the Rector and churchwardens of St. Faith's parish, with several inhabitants of St. Paul's-churchyard.



THE NEW GALLERY OF ANTIQUITIES IN THE LOUVRE, PARIS.



INFANTRY OF THE LINE.

INFANTRY—NATIONAL GARDE MOBILE—ARTILLERY.
NEW UNIFORMS OF THE FRENCH NATIONAL GARDE MOBILE.

CHASSEURS A PIED.

GALLERY OF ANTIQUITIES AT THE LOUVRE, PARIS.

THE great museum at the Louvre, occupying the main portion of the old palace, is one of the most attractive exhibitions in Paris. No fewer than fifteen different departments, each a separate museum, are congregated in that building—collections, that is to say, of painting; ancient, mediæval, and modern sculpture; drawings, engravings, naval science, relics of the Sovereigns of France, Assyrian antiquities, Egyptian antiquities, Greek and Etruscan antiquities, the ethnological collection, Algerian curiosities, the museum of Napoleon III., and the Sauvageot collection. The ground floor is occupied mainly by the various schools of sculpture; the first floor by paintings and drawings, bronzes, jewels, and historical relics; while the ethnological and naval collections occupy the second floor. It is not only the contents of the galleries of the Louvre that possess remarkable interest for the intelligent visitor, but the apartments themselves recall some of the most romantic events of history. The first hall of the series, devoted to ancient sculpture, for instance, called the Salle des Caryatides, from the colossal figures chiselled by Jean Goujon, which support the gallery, was where Henry IV. celebrated his wedding with Margaret of Valois, and where Molière so often performed before the Court. On the first floor, again, the fine gallery known as the Salle Henry II. leads at once to the Salle des Sept Chimées (the Hall of the Seven Chimneys), in one part of which, when it was divided into several chambers, Henry IV. died of the wound inflicted by Ravallac. Numerous alterations have recently been made, however, not only in the disposition of the various objects of art, but also in the galleries themselves, some of which have been almost entirely restored, while a new building has been added to the main pile, the entrance and staircase having been altogether renewed and made worthy of such a national edifice. From the Pavilion Denon the visitor reaches a gallery on the ground floor, lighted by five windows and covered by an immense roof, in the arches of which the four staircases are placed leading to the galleries of the museum on the first floor and to the galleries of antiquities below. These galleries of ancient art will afford a favourable opportunity to the art-historical student for inspecting those works which have never before been properly classified. Commencing with Augustus, the first Roman Emperor, surrounded by members of his family, the collection includes all the rulers of the empire, each being mounted on a pedestal of coloured marble bearing the name of the Sovereign. Perhaps the decorations of the saloon, the blue and gold ornamentation and gay frescoes, are too light and frivolous for such classic associations; but the general effect serves to relieve the sombre sensations which a sculpture-gallery almost invariably produces.

UNIFORMS OF THE NEW FRENCH GARDE MOBILE, AND OF THE NEW REGIMENTS OF INFANTRY.

THE uniforms of the new corps of the Army and of the National Garde Mobile exhibit, as our Engraving will not fail to show, a still further advance in the accoutrement of the French troops which may prove that recent discussions on military costume have not been held in vain. The loose, easy trousers; the neat, uncumbersome tunic; the light, well-fitting cap; the clean, ankle-supporting gaiter, are all admirable parts of the dress of these active soldiers; while the comparatively open and unstrangled neck is an advance which may one day, perhaps, be followed by our own authorities, or even by Sir Richard Mayne or his successors in the uniform of our police. The long-skirted overcoats of the infantry of the Line, and the cloaks of the chasseurs à pied, are examples of what may be done to disembarass the foot soldier of his incumbrances; while it is only among the freest and easiest of our volunteer riflemen that the equal can be found of the plain, manly uniform of the infantry and artillery of the National Guard.

AT THE SECRET PRINTING OFFICE in the Quirinal Palace, at Rome, the commissions are putting in type the programme of matters to be treated of in the council, according to the decisions of the six congregations of prelates engaged in drawing up the propositions. As portions of this programme are printed they are sent off to the Catholic Bishops, to give them time to study the subjects before coming to Rome to vote upon them.

HOW NOT TO DO IT.—Last week the Belleisle was towed round from Sheerness to Greenwich for the use of the Seamen's Hospital Society, and was safely brought to moorings off Deptford Creek. But the officials who dispatched her appear to have forgotten that some sort of companion-ladder was required for the ascent of patients and some kind of landing-stage in connection therewith. The ship was brought up the river with neither of these necessary addenda. She is utterly useless for the purpose intended without them, and a week at least must elapse before they will be forthcoming, during which time the sick sailors on the Dreadnought will be smothered by the scraping and maddened by the caulking, both of which have already commenced.—*Pail Mail Gazette*.

THE COMMITTEE ON GUN FACTORIES.—The Select Committee on Royal Gun Factories have presented their report. The Committee was appointed to inquire into allegations that in 1864 the Royal gun factories, on being applied to by the Ordnance Select Committee for estimates for cheaper 9-inch guns than those that were being made at that time, sent in erroneous comparative estimates, on the strength of which the Ordnance Select Committee decided in favour of the gun proposed by the Royal gun factories; that a sample 9-inch gun was then made by the Royal gun factories, the details of the cost of which, on being compared with the details of the cost of similar guns manufactured two years afterwards, showed great and apparently inexplicable discrepancies; and that like errors have been made by the Royal gun factories with regard to the comparative cost of new wrought-iron and converted guns, thereby entailing a heavy and unnecessary expense upon the country. The Committee find "that discrepancies undoubtedly exist between certain estimates furnished by the Royal gun factories of the probable cost of guns and the actual cost of the guns when subsequently manufactured, which discrepancies appear to have rendered this inquiry highly desirable. Your Committee are further of opinion that such discrepancies have been in a great measure explained by the evidence adduced before them, and are in no way attributable to a desire on the part of the Royal gun factories improperly to understate the cost of their productions."

A FEW FACTS FOR ELECTORS TO REMEMBER.—Inasmuch as it is the special province of the House of Commons to exercise a vigilant control over the national taxation and expenditure, it is the legitimate function of electors to urge upon candidates and members of Parliament an unceasing vigilance in respect to these most important matters. And the subject of national expenditure has now become one of imperative urgency. Notwithstanding the heavy pressure of the late financial panic, notwithstanding that the pauperism of the United Kingdom has increased more than 4 per cent in the past year, Sir John Pakington has seized this peculiarly inappropriate occasion for bringing in Army Estimates of a million and a half in excess of the heavy demands of last year. The last year's Estimates were 14 millions sterling. This year's are 15,500,000. Parliament has acceded to this excessive demand with scarcely a murmur. The Government endeavoured to attribute their increased expenditure to the necessities of the Abyssinian war. But Mr. Gladstone proved, with prompt and indisputable clearness, that with a moderate economy all the extra expenses of the Abyssinian war might have been met without additional taxation. The British expenditure for the Army in 1848, a year of European disturbance and threatening danger, was ten millions. Why should it be fifteen and a half millions in 1868, a time of peace and of no threatened danger of war? The Admiralty has recently spent more than ten millions in the construction of sea-going ironclads, not one of which can fulfil the requirements of a sea-worthy vessel, adapted to stormy weather or long voyages. The whole of the fund raised voluntarily for the relief of the distressed Lancashire operatives in the cotton famine was under half a million. Less than a quarter of a million sufficed to alleviate the last winter's misery in the great district of East London. One million and a quarter covered all the expense of the palace of glass at Sydenham, with its hundreds of acres of freehold lands, its splendid courts, and all its innumerable appointments. The same sum was expended in the construction of only thirteen ships of war, all which thirteen were sold last year for the total sum of £38,000! There were seven line-of-battle ships—viz., the *Cressy*, the *Collingwood*, the *Orion*, the *Majestic*, the *Colossus*, the *Brunswick*, the *Collingwood*, and six large frigates—viz., the *Chesapeake*, the *Euryalus*, the *Sanspareil*; and the *Leander*, the *Argonaut*, and the *Termagant*. The *Times* newspaper states that these costly ships thus sold "for a song" were no old-fashioned models, but good modern fighting ships, as fighting ships were estimated even ten or twelve years ago. Let electors look to these and similar instances of the enormous waste of their own money, especially when thousands of industrious Englishmen are on the verge of starvation. Is Sir John Pakington, or any other "First Lord," to be permitted in another Session of Parliament still to play "ducks and drakes" with the hard-earned money of the toiling millions of Britain? If the electors themselves do not ensure a better state of things, no one else will.

THE OPERA.

THE custom which requires that each opera season shall be reviewed as soon as it has fairly come to an end, imposes this year no very severe task on the reviewer. Many new singers, for the most part of mediocre talents and attainments, have appeared, but no new opera has been brought out at either of our lyrical theatres; and this for the best possible reason, because no new opera worth bringing out can anywhere be found. We have to deal, however, at present with the Royal Italian Opera alone. No manager has ever shown himself more eager than Mr. Gye to present to his subscribers every work of real importance which might happen to be attracting the general attention of connoisseurs and the public in no matter what part of Europe. But it is not his business to compose operas. All he can do is to produce them; and this particular year there have really been none to produce. Verdi's "Don Carlos," Gounod's "Romeo e Giulietta," and Auber's "Domino Noir" have been, by comparison, the novelties of the season at the Royal Italian Opera. There is this difference, however, to be observed—that, whereas "Le Nomino Noir" is already so old as to have something of the character of a classic, "Don Carlos" and "Romeo e Giulietta" are just old enough for everyone to understand that to neither of them can any such character ever belong. Among the new singers who have appeared this season at the Royal Italian Opera the only two who can be named as really desirable acquisitions are the soprano, Mdle. Vanzini, and the contralto, Mdle. Grossi.

Signor Mariano Neri, brother-in-law of Signor Mongini, came to London last week to fulfil an engagement at Her Majesty's Opera, and was to have appeared, but did not appear, as Edgardo, in "Lucia." He was, however, to undertake as much of that part as occurs in the third act on Friday night, when a combined representation was announced for the benefit of Mdle. Christine Nilsson. Perhaps, as Mr. Gye likes to bring his season to a close with some novelty in the shape of an opera, so Mr. Mapleson is pleased to wind up with a certain number of new tenors. Signor Carlo Buterini, last Saturday, made a first appearance on the stage of Her Majesty's Opera and sang the tenor part in "Rigoletto" with considerable merit. On the whole, he may be congratulated on the result of his first performance. The audience were evidently well satisfied with it, and redemanded "La Donna e Mobile" with one voice. The other characters were assigned as before; that of Gilda to Mdle. Clara Louise Kellogg, the most able and interesting of all living Gildas; and that of Rigoletto to Mr. Santley, who, taking singing and acting together, may be regarded as the best Rigoletto of the present day. The performances on Monday night were for the benefit of Mdle. Kellogg, when "Linda di Chamounix" was given, followed by the last act of "La Favorita," in which Mdme. Trebelli-Bettini sustained, for the first time, the part of Leonora.

Mr. W. H. Harrison's benefit was not nearly so well attended as it ought to have been. One would have thought the performance announced sufficiently attractive in itself: an act of the "Grand Duchess of Gerolstein," with Mrs. Howard Paul in the principal part; an act of Mr. Robertson's "Caste," played by the company from the Prince of Wales's Theatre; a miscellaneous concert in which most of the best English and foreign artists now in London took part. This ought certainly to have drawn to Covent-garden Theatre—the scene of Mr. Harrison's triumphs, as of his losses—a very much larger audience than actually assembled there. But the very dulllest period of the year is, of course, that which immediately follows the close of the season. This will, in some measure, account for the scantiness of the attendance at Mr. Harrison's benefit. It is intended, we believe, to arrange a second benefit performance, and we sincerely hope better success will attend the second than was vouchsafed to the first effort on Mr. Harrison's benefit.

THE IRISH FISHERIES.

THE report of the Special Commissioners for the Irish Fisheries was issued on Wednesday. Though it is admitted that the capture of fish in Ireland during the last year has been below the average, the Commissioners think that "the deficiency is not to be considered as indicative of a decline in either the produce or value of the salmon fisheries, but may be accounted for by the very exceptional state of the weather and rivers during the fishing season. This opinion, adopted from our own experience and observation, has been confirmed by the answers to our usual inquiries addressed at the end of this year, not only to the clerks of the districts, but to the conservators individually. Another reason for the paucity of fish taken during the last fishing season—one, too, of great importance upon a subject to which we have frequently adverted—viz., the over-net-fishing at the mouths of salmon rivers—may, perhaps, be found in the well-remembered drought of the season of 1864—the driest season which had been since the year 1826; for there is no doubt that by the excessive fishing at the mouths of rivers for the very large part of that season during which the fish were unable at all to get up the rivers, an unusually large quantity of the breeding fish whose spawn might be expected to stock the rivers last year and this was destroyed. Whilst, however, the quantity of fish observed in the rivers during the season was not large, we are enabled to state that after and towards the close of the fishing season the heavy water in the rivers which continued for some time previous to the general spawning months permitted the access of the fish to the upper waters, and during the months of November and December a number much larger than is usual in these months ascended the rivers; and in the after season the rivers were so abundantly supplied with breeding-fish that we are hopeful that the dry season of last year will not produce any permanent injury to the fisheries, and we notice with pleasure that during the part of this season which has passed, if the fish in the Dublin market have not been more numerous than usual, the proportion of large fish to be seen is much greater, and the fact of many of them having come from Limerick is strongly corroborative of the statement of the fishermen mentioned in our last report, that the size of fish taken above the tidal waters of the Shannon is increasing. The interest in the fisheries, as shown by the amount of license duties, is still on the increase. Last year we referred to a progressive increase in the sums paid for licenses, these having then produced the largest sum before that time realised by them, and this year they have exceeded that by a further sum of about £218, of which £164 has been in the Limerick district. This has been principally the result of the increase of drift nets in the river Shannon, the number of which (93) in the last year was nearly double the number (47) in the preceding year. These engines, used by the humbler class of fishermen in the lower part of the river, were, until after the abolition of fixed engines, unknown in that river. Notwithstanding, however, this increase, the funds realised by the license duties are not, nor with the present scale are they likely to be, nearly adequate to permit the proper remuneration of bailiffs for the protection of the rivers, and pay the other expenses incident to the advancement and preservation of the fisheries; and were it not for the sums expended by the owners of the principal fisheries of some of the rivers the stock of the rivers could not be kept up. The legislation suggested by the Commissioners is:—"That votes for conservators in respect of fixed engines should be allowed only in the electoral divisions in which they are fished and the license is taken out. That to entitle a person to vote, his license should be taken out two months before the election. The licenses should be sold only by authorised persons. That no officer or servant of the board should interfere in or vote at elections. That the Commissioners should have power to inquire into and rectify proceedings at elections. That the appointment of clerks and other officers should be subject to the approval of the Commissioners, and that clerks should be permanent, but be liable to dismissal by the Commissioners for violation of statutes or neglect of duty. That conviction under Fishery Acts should render conservator, clerk, or other officer liable to dismissal by the Commissioners with the consent of the Lord Lieutenant.

That the Commissioners should have power to direct prosecutions. That rod licenses should be personal. That they should be valid only in the district in which they are taken out, until payment of a small sum in addition in each other district in which they are used. That there should be a uniform rate of rod licenses at £1 a rod. That the onus of proving that any fish killed after netting season in a district was killed legally should be on the parties having the fish. That power be given to the Commissioners to alter the rod season in same way as that for other engines. To make it clear that penalties are to be divided, giving one third to the informer and two thirds to the board. That power be given to the Commissioners to try the right of parties claiming as owners of several fisheries to use draft nets within the forbidden distances of mouths of rivers, as in cases of fixed engines erected there. That power be given to water bailiffs to search for illegal engines and seize them, as in the English Act of 1860. That fishing within 50 ft. of a fish pass be prevented. That funds should be provided by the Government for building fish-passes, clearing obstructions, &c. That the annual accounts of the districts should be audited by the Commissioners, with power to them to enforce any sum not paid to the conservators, or disallow any sum illegally paid by them. In addition to these particular suggestions we would again direct your Excellency's attention to the necessity for consolidation as well as amendment of the fishery laws, and urge the combination of the two in any legislation which may be adopted, repeating from our last report that 'whatever difference of opinion there may be among interests as to the propriety of particular amendments, we believe that the question of consolidation will meet with the fullest approbation and co-operation of all parties.'

OBITUARY.

ADMIRAL WALCOTT, M.P.—By the death of Admiral Walcott, M.P.; which occurred, at Winton, near Christchurch, this week, a vacancy has occurred in the representation of Christchurch. The late gallant Admiral, who was a thorough Conservative, had been member for the borough since 1852, and was unopposed on each occasion till 1865, when Mr. E. Haviland Burke came forward, in the Liberal interest, but was defeated. Mr. Burke, it is said, will again offer his services to the electors; and it is whispered that Sir Henry Drummond Wolff will be brought forward by the Conservatives. It was not deemed his intention to have sought the suffrages of the constituency at the forthcoming general election. Admiral John Edward Walcott was the third son of the late Edward Walcott Symson, Esq., of Winton House, Christchurch, by Catherine Anne, daughter of John Lyons, Esq., of Tending Hall, Huntingdonshire. He was born Sept. 4, 1790, and was educated at the Hyde Abbey School, Winchester. He entered the Navy in 1803, became Captain 1822, and Admiral 1832. In 1833, when in command of the Tyne frigate, he distinguished himself by cutting out a piratical schooner from the harbour of Mata, in the island of Cuba; and for his services was made a C.B. in 1827. He served under Admiral Sir S. Hood and other distinguished officers, and was present at the bombardment of Copenhagen and in other actions. In 1819 he married Charlotte Anne daughter of the late Colonel John Nelley, of the Bengal Horse Artillery, but was left a widower in 1852.

GEORGE HOUSMAN THOMAS.—A good artist and a good man has passed away from us whose name and memory should be preserved, and who will take a high place amongst the artists of our country. George H. Thomas was born Dec. 7, 1824. He was educated at Dr. Lord's, Trowbridge, near Bath, and apprenticed at an early age to G. Bonner, the wood engraver. As soon as he had learnt his art he went to Paris and set up in that city as a wood engraver. At the same time he commenced work as an illustrator of books, and his productions attracted the notice of some Americans, by whom he was engaged to go to New York to illustrate a newspaper. He remained there two years (1846-7), and obtained employment also as a designer of American banknotes, many of which are ornamented with engravings of very great merit; indeed, some of the drawings for these notes are amongst the most finished and graceful ever executed by him. Ill health obliged him to return to England, where he now found employment as one of the principal draughtsmen of the *Illustrated London News*. In 1848 he visited Italy in order to complete his education as a painter, and furnished the *Illustrated London News* with those vivid sketches of the principal episodes of the siege of Rome which graced its pages. We believe it was these drawings that first attracted the attention of her Majesty to the artist, and from about the year 1854 he was continually employed by the Queen to delineate the principal events of the time in which the Queen or the Royal family were the chief actors; and this not only by the production of many important oil paintings—such, e.g., as the Queen distributing Crimean medals to the soldiers in St. James's Park, and the Queen and Prince Consort at Aldershot (now at the Leeds Exhibition)—but by a series of sketches in pencil and water colours, which form an album of great value belonging to her Majesty, to which purpose his wonderful power of expressing character and his great delicacy of execution were peculiarly adapted. As a designer of illustrated books he had few rivals, and his invention was as varied as his drawing was spirited and correct. His *chef d'œuvre* of this class was, perhaps, Mrs. Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin," in which his delineations of negro life, of Uncle Tom, Topsy, and others, were most admirable; and in this work, no doubt, his sojourn in the States was of the highest service to him. His sketches also in pencil were perfectly marvellous for their delicacy, freedom of touch, and extraordinary truth to nature; no photograph could be truer, so that his small portraits in pencil and crayon were amongst the most remarkable of their class, and we believe that, had he pursued this branch of art, he would have been *facile princeps* amongst all competitors. But an accident numbed his powers and shortened his career. A fall from his horse, by which he suffered concussion of the brain, produced disastrous results from which he never recovered, and finally, though indirectly, led to his early death. Still, he worked on without ceasing; he was industry itself. If to labour is to pray, then, indeed, his whole life was one continuous prayer and act of worship; his own nature led to this, and the demands which a large family made upon him strengthened him in it. To this was added a modesty, a thorough goodness, and a tolerant charity of others, which endeared him to all who had the advantage of his friendship. The best works executed by him in oil were the "Ball at the Camp of Boulogne," purchased by Mr. Lucas, the contractor; "Rotten-row," a most characteristic picture belonging to the same owner; "The Review at the Champ de Mars, Paris," by her Majesty the Queen and the Emperor Napoleon; "The Coronation of the King of Prussia." "The Marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales." "The Queen and Prince Consort at Aldershot." "The Queen Giving Medals to the Crimean Heroes." "The Queen Bestowing the Order of the Garter on the Sultan," all painted expressly for her Majesty, besides others of almost equal value. His last pictures in this year's Academy exhibition were "Apple Blossom" and "Masterless," which gave no indication of failing power. But continued ill-health, overwork, and perhaps anxiety for his large family, were telling on a constitution naturally delicate. He went to Boulogne, with his wife and children, to recruit his strength, but was destined never to return alive, and he died there on July 21.

CURIOUS DISCOVERY OF A FIRE.—Between two and three o'clock, last Saturday morning, the inmates of Barlow Hall, near Selby, a large old-fashioned house, the residence of Mr. Bailey, were aroused from their slumbers by the discharge of firearms, evidently inside the house. Mr. Bailey and his servants at once proceeded down stairs, when they found the kitchen in flames. An alarm was given, and the neighbours rendering every assistance, the fire was confined to that portion of the house. On an examination being made, it was found that a beam in the chimney had been ignited, probably the evening before, and the fire had communicated with other portions of the house, including a closet containing three loaded guns. These were discharged, on becoming heated, with a loud report, and hence the discovery of the fire. Had it not been for the discharge of the guns, there is reason to fear that not only would Barlow Hall have been destroyed, but life would have been sacrificed. As it was, the damage done does not exceed £40.

THE MISADVENTURES OF A PICNIC PARTY.—One afternoon last week a party of young people left Landrake for the purpose of enjoying a comfortable cup of tea on the banks of the river Lynher, about a mile from the village. After tea some of the party, seeing a boat, suggested a trip on the water. The suggestion was accepted, and the boat was engaged for the evening. The boatman pulled to the opposite shore and then left the party to themselves, saying he wanted to call at a farmhouse close by. He told them he would be back again in a few minutes; but they said they would go a little way down the river and back again by the time he came out. Away they went; but on the boatman returning he could not see anything of them. He went up and down the river looking for them for nearly two hours, and at last he found them stuck in the mud, the tide having gone back and left them about thirty yards from the lake and twenty yards from the shore. They had the satisfaction then of hearing from the boatman that they were "all right," and had nothing to do but contentedly sit still and wait for the next tide. The number in the boat was five ladies and two gentlemen, two of the young ladies and one gentleman being on a visit from London. Unfortunately, the gentlemen left their coats and hats on the shore, and were obliged to stay all night without any. As might well be supposed, great anxiety was felt by their friends at home at their unaccountable absence. Several men were sent in search of them, and fears were entertained at one time that they were all drowned; and it was even thought advisable to drag the river. It was seven o'clock on the following morning before the tide returned and rescued the party from their misadventurous position.

POLICE.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDES FROM DRUNKENNESS.—Mary Ann Matthews, a middle-aged woman, was finally examined before Mr. Arnold, at Westminster, charged with cutting her throat in a cell at the Rochester-row Police Station. Solomon Escourt, 74 B, proved that the prisoner was locked up on the 10th ult. on a warrant charging her with wilful damage. When witness visited the cell shortly afterwards he found the prisoner lying on the ground insensible, with a wound in her throat from which she was bleeding. There was a pair of scissors by her side marked with blood. Prisoner was taken to the Westminster Hospital, where she remained some days, and was then brought to this court. Mr. Arnold observed that, as the prisoner's husband refused to take charge of her in consequence of her drunken habits, he had no other alternative but to commit her for trial, which he accordingly did.

Mary Sposte, another middle-aged woman, stated to be a confirmed drunkard, was finally examined, charged with attempting to drown herself. On the 13th ult. Frederick Wilson, whilst rowing in a boat upon the Thames, found the prisoner in the water, and succeeded in rescuing her. She subsequently told the police that she had come from Somers Town with the intention of committing suicide, and declared that when let alone she would do it again. She was also committed for trial.

THE NORTON FOLGATE MURDER.—On Monday Alexander Arthur Mackay, aged nineteen, who is accused of having murdered Emma Grossmith, the wife of an eating-house keeper, in Norton Folgate, was brought before the magistrate at Worship-street. The murder was committed on May 8, and Mackay evaded justice until a few days ago, when he was found in Maidstone gaol, undergoing sentence for a larceny. When taken before Mr. Newton he at once admitted his name. Evidence was gone into to prove his guilt. The husband of the deceased deposed to having several conversations with her previous to her death, on May 17. She distinctly declared that the prisoner had inflicted the injuries of which she died by striking her on the head with a rolling-pin. After the examination of several witnesses, Mackay, who had listened to the proceedings with great coolness, was committed for trial on the charge of murder.

CONVICTION OF CAPTAIN PLUMMY AND HIS ASSOCIATE.—George Whitlock, eighteen, alias Captain Plummy, and James Gregory were indicted for assaulting and robbing John Quirk of two sixpences and 7d. in copper, in Kent-street. They were also indicted for assaulting William Bainstock White, in New Kent-road, and robbing him of his watch and chain. It appeared from the evidence of John Quirk, a working man, that on Sunday morning, June 28, between twelve and one, he was going up Kent-street towards home, when Whitlock came and asked him for some tobacco. He told him he had none, but would buy him some in the next street. As he was turning the corner he was suddenly attacked by three or four young fellows. One seized his arms, and the prisoner Whitlock caught him round the chest, while Gregory rifled his pockets of all the money he possessed. After that he received a severe kick, and they all ran away. He saw a constable, and went in pursuit of them, and found Gregory lying against a doorway in Henry-street. He had two sixpences and 7d. in copper. Inspector Reynolds, M division, said that about four o'clock on the morning in question he was passing down Kent-street, when he saw the prisoner Whitlock drop from a house; and Lewarne, a detective officer, was on the roof of the house, calling "Stop him!" Witness accordingly pursued him into Napier-street, when he entered an unoccupied building, where witness captured him, and, on searching him, found on him two sixpences and 7d. The jury found them both guilty, when the Chairman said it would not be necessary to go into the other charge. He supposed the prisoners were known to the police. Lewarne, the detective officer, said that they had not been tried before, but he believed both prisoners had been concerned in at least a dozen highway robberies lately. The Chairman sentenced each to five years' penal servitude.

SHOCKING TRAGEDY.—A double murder, attended by peculiarly distressing circumstances, is reported from the Rochdale district. A man named Israel Whiteoak, who occupied a small farm at Burnedge, about two miles and a half distant from Rochdale, murdered two children and afterwards attempted to commit suicide. He and his wife, who were known as very steady, respectable people, had two children—one a boy named James, about eight years old, and the other a girl named Sarah Ann, aged three years. The wife took charge of three cows and the farm, whilst her husband laboured at a brickyard near Oldham. About six o'clock on Tuesday morning, as Mr. Superintendent Pickering was riding to the Rochdale station, he heard that, two hours before that time, Whiteoak had murdered his children and then had attempted self-destruction. Accompanied by Sergeant Dawson, the superintendent went to the farm. All four inmates, it appeared, had slept in one room, which had two beds in it. When the superintendent entered the house he found the youngest child lying on a couch down stairs, with its throat cut, and quite dead. By its side the boy lay, still living, but having terrible gasps across his throat. He was unable to speak. Upstairs in the children's bed lay Israel Whiteoak, with his throat cut severely, the windpipe being entirely severed, but the main artery was not completely cut through, and he motioned his hand to Mr. Pickering to leave the room, and gurgled out "Let me die." Dr. Booth, of Rochdale, was immediately sent for, and was soon in attendance. Why such a dreadful crime should have been perpetrated by Israel Whiteoak is mysterious, but his wife stated, in answer to some questions: Twelve months ago my husband suffered very much from rheumatism, and I remember that he told me then that he had a good mind to commit suicide, but he did not know how I could get on with the children. I did not pay much attention to the remarks then, because I knew that he was suffering from great pain. He has not been troubled since with rheumatism, but yesterday (Monday) morning I was ill and vomited blood, which seemed to make him very uneasy, and he offered to stop at home from his

work, but I would not let him. He told me that I must go and see a doctor on Tuesday. Last night he returned from his work at the brickyard of my uncle (Mr. Diggle), near Oldham, and seemed very well, and there was nothing strange in his conduct. He ate a very good supper, and we retired to rest about eleven o'clock. This morning, I think it would be about four o'clock, I was awake by hearing my youngest child cry, and I saw my husband kneeling on the children's bed looking wild, and the youngest child, as I thought, bleeding from the mouth. I got up, took the child, and saw that its own and its brother's throats were cut. I said to him, "What have you done?" He made no reply. I ran down with my youngest child, which was not quite dead, and my boy followed after me, but I saw his father seize him at the top of the stairs, and again cut his throat with a razor. I put the child on the couch, and as I was unlocking the door my husband was coming down the stairs. I rushed out and gave alarm to the neighbours. Mrs. Whiteoak, while relating these facts, cried bitterly, and had at times to make long pauses. Adam Smith and John Ashworth, two neighbours, it appears, were the first to enter the house after Mrs. Whiteoak gave alarm, and they state that they found the little girl on the couch, dead, and the other child was on a chair down stairs, alive, bleeding profusely from its throat. They went up stairs and found Israel Whiteoak in the children's bed, with his throat cut and a razor by his side. Whiteoak motioned them to go down stairs, and said something which they could not understand.

THE CASE OF MR. JAMES FREELING WILKINSON. Amongst the Parliamentary papers issued on Wednesday is the copy of a petition to the House of Commons, presented by Mr. J. F. Wilkinson, late of the Joint-stock Discount Company, praying for further inquiry into his case with a view to granting him relief. After recounting his own early history, Mr. Wilkinson proceeds to give an account of the history and progress of the company referred to, and of the circumstance which led to his trial and conviction on the charge of having fraudulently applied money belonging to the company to his own use and benefit. He then refers to the proceedings taken against certain creditors of the company, and to the facts thereupon disclosed, which led to his liberation from custody after an imprisonment of eighteen months. But the effect of his confinement and degradation, he says, that he has been totally ruined, and so reduced in circumstances as to be dependent upon the casual aid of his family and strangers for the means of existence, and he is without remedy of any kind against anybody for compensation. Under these circumstances, he expresses a hope that the House of Commons will take into consideration the sufferings he has endured, and afford him such relief as it may think fit and proper. The Master of the Rolls pronounced judgment on Wednesday morning on the application of the official liquidator of the Joint-stock Discount Company for leave to continue the action brought against Messrs. Capper, Escombe, and Lawson, for the recovery of £1000, said to have been advanced by Mr. James Freeling Wilkinson, the late manager of the company, who had been previously convicted on the charge of appropriating this sum to his own purposes. The action was commenced in the name of the official liquidator, by the solicitor of Mr. Wilkinson, on the strength of the latter's affidavit that he had not advanced the money to Messrs. Capper and Co. on his own account, but as a loan from the Joint-stock Discount Company. A compromise was subsequently entered into, in accordance with which Capper and Co. agreed to pay the company £1000, and upon this being shown to the Home Secretary, Mr. Wilkinson was discharged from prison. It was urged, on behalf of the official liquidator, that the solicitor had no right to enter into the compromise without the leave of the Court of Chancery, and that he was actuated in doing so by his anxiety to obtain the release of Mr. Wilkinson. The Master of the Rolls has decided that the compromise is of no effect, and that the action against Capper and Co. must go on.

POWERS OF CHURCHWARDENS.—Sir R. Phillimore, on Tuesday, delivered judgment in the Atherton Church case, which has for some time back excited very general interest. The Rev. F. H. Richings, Incumbent of St. Mary's, Atherton, charged Mr. Edward Cordingley, one of the churchwardens of the parish, with having forcibly entered the church, removing the altar cloth, the super-altar, and some other decorations. The defence was that no violence had been used, and that Mr. Cordingley simply acted in accordance with a wish expressed at a public meeting of the parishioners. In delivering his judgment, Sir Phillimore said that the law was exceedingly clear upon the matter, and that it was surprising to find a churchwarden acting so illegally as in this case. Mr. Cordingley had honestly admitted that he was not a member of any church, and that he always had a great repugnance to the office of churchwarden. The learned Judge thought therefore that the parishioners had made a most unfortunate choice in appointing him to such an office. Under the whole circumstances of the case, however, he was unwilling to grant the prayer of the Incumbent, that Mr. Cordingley should be condemned in full costs; but would order him to pay £100 *nomine expensarum*, and admonish him to abstain from such illegal practices in future.

WRITE HIM DOWN AN ASS.—Is it within the bounds of lawful criticism to call a public man an ass? Guided by the lucid summing up of Mr. Baron Channell, a Devon jury has answered that momentous question in the affirmative. In a local paper an anonymous writer spoke of a Newton solicitor, who happened to be a commissioner of land and assessed taxes, as a specimen of the "long-eared, flat-shouldered, and cut-hammed breed"—in plain English, a donkey. The solicitor did not like the description, and he brought an action for libel against the editor of the peccant journal; but the jury has virtually dismissed him with the assurance that he has no reason to complain. It would be difficult to exaggerate the importance of the verdict. It gives the privileges of pen and ink a tremendous extension. Honourable members will, no doubt, be more on their guard next Session, with an eye to their new liability; and even noble Lords may learn to think before they speak.

CRIME IN IRELAND.—The assizes are drawing to a close, and it is satisfactory to find that in every circuit the Judges concur in bearing testimony to the generally tranquil and orderly state of the country. Never before have calendars been presented so creditable to the people and so unprofitable to the Bar. Even the lists of records have been in many places total blanks. A few more such assizes would thin the ranks of the profession, and warn off young recruits. The quarter sessions have helped, no doubt, to drain the superior courts of their business, both civil and criminal, but in these, too, there is a remarkable diminution in the number of indictments and civil proceedings. In some districts which are held in high estimation by lawyers there is still an encouraging amount of litigation, but they grieve to see the general character of the country so degenerated compared with the "good old times" of murders, highway robberies, faction fights, Whiteboy outrages, abductions, assaults, duels, and an endless variety of civil actions, which held out a tempting prospect to the rising practitioners. The Fenian conspiracy revived for awhile the drooping spirits of the profession; but that has collapsed, and with it the bags distended with Crown briefs. A winter assize would tend to equalise the business on circuit, and be of advantage in other respects; but at present there is little chance of such a measure of reform being even thought of. It seems hard, however, that prisoners who henceforth may be committed upon heinous charges for trial at the assizes should have to lie in gaol until March next before they can have the constitutional benefit of trial by jury. Among the few places excepted from the congratulatory addresses of the Judges, one of the chief is the county of Donegal. In opening the Commission at Lifford, the Lord Chief Justice expressed regret that he could not offer the same observations to the grand jury which he had made in other towns. In fact, there was more crime in that county than in all the others put together. He enumerated a case of murder by poison, in which two persons were implicated, charges of dangerous and malicious assaults, Whiteboy offences, murder, and an indictment against a number of persons for riot and tumultuous assembly on July 12. His Lordship observed that it was very many years since any occurrence of that kind in the county. One of the murder cases referred to was that of a man named Donaghy, who was tried for shooting his wife on their return home from Derry, after quarrelling by the way. He was acquitted. The trial of the poisoning case was postponed until the next assizes, on the application of the Crown.

BOY CRIMINALS IN IRELAND.—Another evidence of the pernicious influence of the "Dick Turpin" literature on the minds of the young has been afforded by a trial at the Kerry Assizes. James Stephens and Edward Bailey were charged with having fired at Bridget Fay with intent to murder. The evidence given by Bridget Fay was that upon the evening of the day in question she was in the kitchen of her master's house at Fortlands. The prisoners entered the kitchen and asked to see her master, Mr. O'Connell; she replied that he was in bed, and when she would not go to call him up Stephens presented a pistol at her, and said, "Whisper, I want you," and that if she stirred or screamed he would shoot her. She then slipped out of the kitchen into the hall, and closed the door behind her, but before she could get as far as the parlour-doors she heard a shot, which, however, did not hit her. The head constable produced a flattened bullet, which had been found in the hall of Mr. O'Connell's house. He also stated that he had found upon Bailey, when he arrested him three days afterwards, a number of caps and a powder-flask. The constable further swore that the younger prisoner, Stephens, came up to the barrack on the night of the 16th, and pulled out a portion of the *Cork Examiner*, in which he said the affair was not properly reported. He was then arrested, and in a bag at his lodgings were found "The Black Highwayman," "The French Jack Sheppard," and several other works of a similar character. The jury found the prisoner guilty of shooting with intent to do grievous bodily harm. Bailey was sentenced to be kept in penal servitude for five years, and as James Stephens was under fifteen years of age, he was sentenced to be imprisoned for a month, and then sent to Upton Reformatory for five years.

MATURE TURTLE DOVES.—Last Saturday, at the Lancaster Assizes, a woman sixty years of age, keeper of a grocer's shop at Southport, brought an action for breach of promise of marriage against a farmer of about the same age, named Cropper, who had got married to another person in January last. Several witnesses were called to prove the promise of marriage and the intimate terms on which they lived; but nobody deposed to any promise having been overheard later than ten years ago. The jury, however, found a verdict for the plaintiff, and gave damages £35.

COSTLY AMUSEMENT.—At the Assizes at Exeter, on Monday, a case, "Dean v. Tucker," was tried. The declaration stated that the plaintiff was engaged in his lawful business on the railway, and that the defendant being in a field, fired a gun and struck his eye, whereby the plaintiff lost the sight of the eye. It appeared that the plaintiff was an engine-driver in the employ of the London and South-Western Railway Company, and the defendant was a farmer. The action was brought to recover compensation for a serious injury he had received on Jan. 1. The plaintiff was driving the 2.20 train from Exeter to Bideford. As the train was approaching the Portsmouth Arms station, he felt himself violently struck in his eye, which had such an effect upon him that he fell on his knee. Upon arriving at the station the plaintiff was obliged to go to a surgeon, but he was returned to Exeter to see a surgeon there. His eye was so much injured that the sight was nearly destroyed, and he could not return to his work for five months. It seemed that the defendant and other farmers were indulging that day in pigeon-shooting in a field about forty or fifty yards from the line of railway, and the defendant fired at a pigeon just as the train was passing, and by this reckless conduct a shot had struck the eye of the plaintiff. The plaintiff had lost his wages of £2 15s. a week during the five months he had been incapacitated from working, and had been to considerable expense, and had suffered very great pain. It was urged that this was such gross neg-

ligence as to render the defendant liable. The defence was that the defendant was not the person who fired the gun, but, if he did fire it, no negligence was attributable to him, and that the injury might have been caused by some other substance than shot. Witnesses having been called on both sides, the learned Baron said that if the jury were satisfied that the injury had been caused by a shot fired by the defendant, then they must consider whether he had fired the shot carelessly or negligently. There was no doubt that a railway was a highway, and the law was this, that if a person in a field adjoining a highway fired a gun carelessly and negligently, and injured another, he would be responsible in this action. The jury, after some deliberation, returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £80.

ASSAULTING AN EDITOR.—Last Saturday afternoon a young man, wearing the uniform of a Lieutenant in the French navy, entered the editorial office of the *Pays* in a state of extreme excitement, and, without any preliminary statement, gave M. Paul de Cassagnac a slap in the face. The latter remained perfectly calm in the presence of this aggression, and endeavoured to obtain an explanation. The assailant, who gave his name as Charles Lullier, declared that he desired, by provoking him to a mortal duel, to avenge M. Jules Favre and the students of the Quartier Latin for attacks to which they had been subjected in the *Pays*. M. Paul de Cassagnac, narrating in that journal of last evening this strange assault, states that the stranger, on being asked if he would write down what he had just said and sign it, at once agreed to do so, and without hesitation put the statement on paper and attached his name to it, adding that he would send his seconds in due course to his adversary. On inquiry afterwards, M. Paul de Cassagnac learned that his assailant had been an enseigne-de-vaissseau on board the *Fleurus*, and had gone in that capacity to Saigon; but was dismissed the service, and consequently had no right to wear any naval uniform whatever. As to the duel, M. Paul de Cassagnac declares that, as the stranger was deemed unworthy to serve in the navy, he evidently could not be a proper person to meet in a hostile encounter. The case should therefore be brought before the correctional police.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JULY 24.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—H. G. T. GRAHAM, Pimlico, clerk.—W. L. JACKSON and H. GRIFFITHS, Friars Park Colliery, chartermasters.

BANKRUPTS.—J. PEAT, Horton Kirby, grocer.—J. W. BURKARD, Old Bethnal-green-road, mantle manufacturer.—J. W. BURKARD, Goswell-road, commission agent.—A. W. R. HUMPHSON, Dorset-square, E. Regent's Park, clerk.—M. SOLOMONS, Bethnal-green-road, fishmonger.—H. ROBINSON, Notting-hill.—T. HEBBERT, Hornsey-road, dairyman.—M. DICKINSON, Notting-hill.—R. H. DAVIES, Kilburn, milkman.—J. BOXALL, jun., Boston-place, Dorset-square, carpenter.—H. G. PARK, High Wall, refreshment-house keeper.—W. SILEY, Kilgland-road, licensed victualler.—G. DYER, Notting-hill, grocer.—W. P. PATTERSON, Harrow-road, engine-driver.—W. BARNES, Hampstead-road, pianoforte-maker.—H. RICKARDS, King's-cross, coinage artist.—J. TURNER, Portsea, commercial traveller.—J. G. JONES, Poplar, victualler.—J. G. F. TODD, Great Yarmouth, wine-merchant.—S. MOH'S, Finchley, carpenter.—E. WINTER, Broomfield, upholsterer.—W. COATES, Rickmansworth, Wesleyan minister.—E. READ, Strand, printer.—C. TUCKER, East Greenwich, greengrocer.—M. MILLER, Winchester, land and estate agent.—H. J. HUSTLER, Newington.—T. E. JONES, Leicester-square, restaurant-keeper.—W. C. BAINES, East Grinstead, innkeeper.—R. G. MACDONALD, Portsmouth, Captain in the Army.—T. CRUSO,Paddington.—R. HARWIN, Watney, brewer.—J. FRYER, Camden-Town.—J. HAYWOOD, Lancashire, teacher.—H. S. JONES, Clapham-road.—G. ABBOT, Kensington-park-road, baker.—H. PARKER, Coombe, builder.—M. S. SHIELD, Forest-hill, contractor.—H. POUNCEBY, Spornthorpe, beer-house-keeper.—H. H. BAKER, J. DAVES, St. Pancras, builder.—A. S. EATON, Birmingham, fish salesman.—J. HOW, Holloway, tea merchant.—E. FOX, Notting-hill, fruiterer.—F. C. WILBES, Camden Town, grocer.—S. PHILLIPS, Monkwell-street, City, electric wax dealer.—E. J. LILLEN, Gravesend, pilot.—R. SHORR, Aston-juxta-Birmingham, licensed victualler.—J. M. PRICE, Birmingham, coach and travel agent.—R. EDWARDS, Birmingham, clock manufacturer.—W. E. BRYAN, Botton-upon-Trent, butcher.—G. CROSTA, Nottingham, looking-glass manufacturer.—S. DICKINSON, Nottingham, baker.—G. DYER, EYKINGHAM, Spalding, auctioneer.—S. LOACH, Carlisle, grocer.—J. LILLES, Pontypool, licensed victualler.—G. MUCCATTA, Swansea, patent fuel manufacturer.—H. HUGHES, Bootle, grocer.—M. COLLIS, Manchester, millwright.—J. G. GILMAN, Loughborough, hosiery manufacturer.—J. MARKHAM, Liverpool, commission agent.—S. NEWENS, Everton, brewer's assistant.—S. SHIVERS, Malvern Link, beer-house-keeper.—T. BLOOMFIELD, Bowdoin, butcher.—C. M. ELLIS, Brighton, grocer.—C. THOMAS, St. Austell, butcher.—W. WATTS, Shrewsbury, retailer of tea.—S. COLE, Skipton, master mariner.—A. SALMON, Bath, innkeeper.—R. HARRISON, Flamborough, draper.—G. WOODING, Kettering, pastry-cook.—J. CHILLON, Stone, beer-house-keeper.—W. DEY, Bedford, chemist and druggist.—J. DAWSON, Padsey, millwright.—H. FIELDS, Tipton, tailor.—T. PARKER, Chaddesden, miller.—F. PARKER, Derby, higgler and dealer.—H. PERFECT, Derby, draper.—J. DUFFY, Derby, horsebreaker.—J. FORD, Derby, tobacconist.—R. ROBINSON, Darlton, builder.—H. VAGE, Truro, tailor.—J. R. GENTLE, Bourn, publisher.—R. PRICE, Wellington, J. HARRISON, Darlington, gardener.—J. LANGLEY, Rochester, greengrocer.—J. W. ATKINSON, Sutton St. James, cordwainer.—E. TULLY, Brighton, beer retailer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—J. RABURN, Edinburgh, spirit-dealer.—W. HALLSTONES, Glasgow, grocer.

TUESDAY, JULY 28.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—J. T. MARRIOTT, Batley, cotton-warp manufacturer.—T. GATES, City, joint lease of Hendregarrog Farm.—G. FENN, Ipswich, grocer.

BANKRUPTS.—A. CULY, Kingsthorpe, gardener.—F. W. PRESTON, Langham-street, Langham-place.—W. TURNER, Walworth-road, clerk.—J. SUTTON, Coventry, clothing.—H. AMES, Southwick, general dealer.—F. E. ELWORTHY, Watlington, merchant.—R. H. CRAIG, Peckham, insurance agent.—S. COHEN, Mire-street, City, tailor.—M. A. MONTIN, Dagmar-road, Victoria Park, clerk.—J. WILLIAMS, Poplar.—T. BEARD, St. George's-in-the-East, lighterman.—R. HUMPHREY, Newman-street, Oxford-street.—H. W. EARLE, Great Grimsby, mill owner.—T. FLEMING, Landport, perfumer.—T. FLYAN, Hornsey, salesman.—H. ARSDEN, Woolwich, boot and shoe maker.—J. WITTS, Kilburn, domestic servant.—S. D. COX, Newington.—E. GRUPING, Lower Norwood, bootmaker.—R. ROSE, Gerkenwell, butcher.—J. DALTRY, Bethnal-green, catering-house keeper.—W. MATTOCKS, Brewer-street, Golden-square, coffee-house keeper.—J. S. WALTER, Epsom, saddler.—W. H. UQUAHART, Blackheath Park.—J. S. COBB, Camden Town, schoolmaster.—R. B. FOWLER, South Walsham, miller.—I. ROBERTS, Tipton, chartermaster.—C. MILNER, Wiston, farmer.—J. RICHARDS, Truro, draper.—S. T. WESTLAKE, Bovey Tracey, farmer.—R. CROWTHER, Heckmondwike, tailor.—T. WHARHAM, Briddington, Wilmore.—T. HAMILTON, Northallerton, butcher.—R. H. PUGH, Liverpool, commission agent.—R. BOLLANS, Liverpool, miller.—H. LUMB, Liverpool, licensed victualler.—J. MAON, Barrow-in-Furness, bootmaker.—R. B. WEISS, Manchester, wine and spirit merchant.—J. CASPI, Birmingham, bootmaker.—A. GROSSELD, Salford, engineer.—J. SHARROCK, Blackburn, grocer.—G. HEWITSON, Birmingham, ropemaker.—J. SPHATT, Birmingham.—R. COTTRELL, Aston-juxta-Birmingham, electrician.—J. WRIGHT, Aston-juxta-Birmingham.—T. FIELD, Savile Town, bootmaker.—I. BROAD, Wantage, sawyer.—E. HARTLEY, Batley, beer-house-keeper.—S. BROWN, Sheffield, steel manufacturer.—F. E. WRIGHT, Cheltenham.—J. ROBERTSON, St. George's Barn, Hove, Cornwell.—L. HEATON, Park, innkeeper.—W. BUTTERFIELD, Bradford, fruiterer.—H. ENSSELL, Kidderminster, coal merchant.—J. G. FOWLER, Wincoburn, quarryman.—W. B. GREENWOOD, Colechester, butcher.—J. W. CARRICK, Shepton Mallet, outfitter.—W. TOWNSEND, Robert Town, cardmaker.—J. S. J. AIDERSHOT, grocer.—T. ROBINSON, Bowness, general agent.—T. REYNOLDS, Warrup, farmer.—G. BATTISON, N. Hampton.—G. WORSLEY, Wilton-cum-Tramrocks.—I. HOE, Botesford, brick and tile maker.—J. ENGLISH, Sunderland, greengrocer.—S. PHILLIS, Stoke-upon-Trent, stationer.—W. BROWNS, Wharston, beer-house-keeper.—J. LESTER, Scarminster Newton Castle, hotel-keeper.—F. HOLLINGSWORTH, Gasterbury, licensed brewer.—G. WELLS, Kendal, Westmorland, marine store-dealer.—C. E. FAIRBANK, Fimley.—S. CHADWICK, Wakefield.—J. LEATHE (BARROW), Scholers' Wigan, boltmaker.—M. BRANDELL, Manchester, bookseller.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

MONDAY NEXT, AUG. 1, 1868.
ANNUAL GREAT FETE OF THE ODD FELLOWS' MANCHESTER
UNITY FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

In addition to the unrivalled attractions of the Palace, there will be a Display of the Fountains;
A Popular Entertainment in which Mr. St. Albans, the Great Vase, Fred. French, Alice Dunning, George Leysbourne, Bevan, with his Wooden-headed Family, and Mr. W. & Julian, will appear.

Assault of Arms and Military Sports by Men of the Guards.
Hurdle and Flat Races, High and Broad Jumps, Sack Race, Juggling Match, &c.

Dancing on the Lawns and Platform.
The Life-boat Manchester Unity on View, prior to departure for its station. Crystal Palace Band and Great Organ, New Tropical Department, Fine Arts and Industrial Courts, Splendid New Picture Galleries, Amusing Monkeys, Chimpanzees, Parrots, Trilobites, Theatre of Arts, Novelties Working Bee, Gymnasium, Roundabouts, Swings, Invigorators, Rifle-shooting, Archery, Bowls, Cricket, Boating on the Lake, Steeplechases, Sixam Carrousel, Quizzes, Croquet, Camera Obscura, Cosmorama.

Theodore's favourite horse "Hammer," on view at the back of the Concert-room. In same exhibition will be found a very interesting collection of Abyssinian Relics; amongst them Theodore's Shield, found at his side after his death, his State Drinking Cup, Dr. Blane's Fetters, &c.

Open from Nine in the Morning.
O'Clock Shilling; Children, Sixpence.
"The best shilling's worth in the world."—Vide Critique.
Great additional facilities by regular trains, as well as special trains as required, and excursions as advertised.

CHRISTY MINSTRELS, ST. JAMES'S

HALL, Piccadilly.—EVERY NIGHT at Eight; Wednesdays and Saturdays Three and Eight, All the Year Round. The Company now permanently increased to Thirty-one Performers, all of known eminence, the largest and best Ethiopian Troupe in the world.—Fountain, &c.; Stage, &c.; Arena, &c.; Gallery, &c. The Christy's never Perform away from St. James's Hall.
Manager, Mr. FREDERICK BURGESS.

WILL CLOSE AUG. 22.—NATIONAL

PORTRAIT EXHIBITION, Exhibition-road, South Kensington.—Third and concluding Series of celebrated persons who have lived since 1800. On and after MONDAY, AUG. 3, the Exhibition will be open FREE on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Saturdays; on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, the Admission will be 6d. each person. Open from Ten a.m. to seven p.m. Catalogues, 1s. and 6d.

GOD BLESS OUR SAILOR PRINCE.

Sung, with startling effect, by Mr. W. H. Cummings, at the Crystal Palace Fete, July 4. 2s. Ditto, Brass Band, for three stamps. To be had everywhere.

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MACMILLAN'S MAGAZINE,

No. 106, for AUGUST.
CONTENTS OF THE NUMBER.

1. Mr. Clements R. Markham on "The Abyssinian Expedition" (continued).
2. "Suggestions on Primary Education, and a Short Notice of the Method of Teaching Reading and Writing in Germany." By A. J. C.
3. Mr. Helps's "Realism" (continued).
4. Mr. Balfour Stewart and Mr. Norman Lockyer on "The Sun as a Type of the Material Universe," concluded.
5. Mr. Joseph Bennett on "The Autograph of Handel's Messiah."
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